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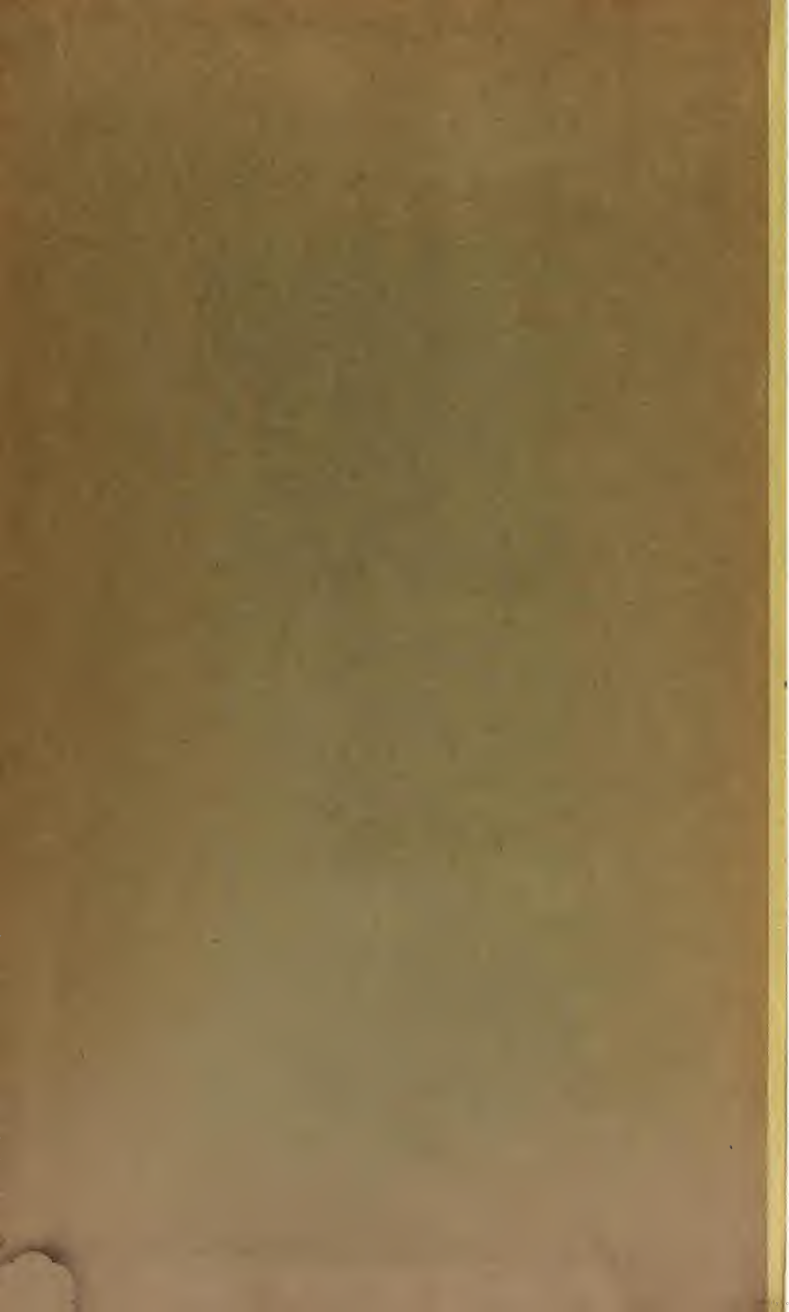
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# THE General History OF IRELAND.

CONTAINING

- I. A full and impartial ACCOUNT of the first Inhabitants of that KINGDOM; with the LIVES and REIGNS of an hundred and seventy four succeeding MONARCHS of the *MILESIAN* Race.
- II. The ORIGINAL of the *GADÉLIÁNS*, their Travels into *Spain*, and from thence into *Ireland*.
- III. A succinct ACCOUNT of the REIGNS of all the KINGS of *Ireland*, with the several Attempts and Invasions upon that Island.
- IV. Of the frequent Assistance the *Irish* afforded the *Scots* against their Enemies the *Romans* and *Britons*, particularly their obliging the *Britons* to make a Ditch from Sea to Sea between *England* and *Scotland*, to guard themselves from the Surprizes and frequent Incurfions of the *Scots* and *Irish*.
- V. A genuine DESCRIPTION of the Courage and Liberality of the ancient *Irish*, their severe Laws to preserve their RECORDS and ANTIQUITIES, and the Punishments inflicted upon those ANTIQUARIES who presumed to vary from the Truth; with an Account of the LAWS and CUSTOMS of the *Irish*; and their ROYAL ASSEMBLIES at *Tara*, &c.
- VI. A RELATION of the long and bloody WARS of the *Irish* against the *Danes*, whose Yoke they at last threw off, and restored LIBERTY to their COUNTRY, which they preserved till the Arrival of *Henry II.* King of *England*.

Collected by the learned JEOFFRY KEATING, D. D.

Faithfully translated from the original *Irish* Language, with many curious Amendments taken from the *Psalters of Tara* and *Casbel*, and other authentick Records,

By DERMOD O'CONNOR,  
ANTIQUARY of the Kingdom of *Ireland*.

Illustrated with above one hundred and sixty COATS of ARMS of the ancient *Irish*, with particular GENEALOGIES of many noble Families, curiously engraved upon forty two COPPER PLATES, by the best MASTERS.

Eine and Iny na Ríogh  
maighéan molbhaich na monarchíonh.

L O N D O N,

Printed by J. Bettenham, for B. CREAKE, at the Bible  
in Jermyn Street, St. James's. M DCC XXIII.



1727





TO THE

MOST NOBLE AND PUISSANT LORD,

**WILLIAM O BRYEN,**

EARL and BARON of *Inchiquin*, and  
BARON of *Burren*, in the County of  
*Clare*, in the Kingdom of *Ireland*.

My LORD,



THE following General History of *Ireland*, humbly addresses your Lordship for Protection; a History deduced, with great Fidelity, from the most early Accounts of Time, and abounding with Relations of the most memorable Events and heroic Exploits of the Ancient *Irish*, among whom the Royal Ancestors of your Lordship

[†]

have

## *The* DEDICATION.

have filled the Throne of *Ireland* for twenty nine Successions, (as appears from the subsequent Genealogy of your Lordship's most Illustrious House) and with signal Bravery have repelled the Invasions of foreign Enemies, and gave a fresh Supply of Life and Vigour to the Cause of their expiring Country.

SENT ON

Were the Translation of this Work proportionable to the Dignity of its Subject, it might naturally hope for Countenance from your Lordship, whose noble and warlike Progenitors shine with unrivalled Lustre through many Pages of this Collection; which I humbly request your Lordship to look upon with an Eye of Favour, not only as it delivers down to Posterity an unexceptionable Account of your Lordship's most noble Family, but as a most sacred Refuge for the following History from the Censures of illiterate and unjust Men, who insolently attempt to vilifie and traduce the lineal Descendents of the great *Milesians* (a martial, a learned, and generous Race) as a Nation ignorant, mean-spirited, and superstitious.



## The DEDICATION.

It has ever been the distinguishing Practice of your Lordship's most noble Family, not only to preserve inviolable the Genealogies of your own renowned Line, but to express a just Veneration and Regard for the publick Records and Annals of your native Country, which I declare openly to the World, are faithfully translated in this History, without Fraud or Falshood, and therefore I am farther encouraged to inscribe my Labours to your Lordship's Name and Patronage.

And never, *may it please your Lordship*, was any Man more ambitious of proper Means to publish to after Ages the Antiquity and Grandeur of your Lordship's Extraction, which flows in a direct Line from the brave *Gadelians*, the great Founders of the *Irish* Name; and Providence has at last gratified the passionate Desire I have always had of paying my due Respects to your Lordship, tho' I despair of paying my just Acknowledgments; and tho' I was never able to produce any thing of my own worthy of your Lordship's View, yet that Misfortune is relieved by the present Opportunity of offering a Translation

## *The* DEDICATION.

flation of the genuine and venerable  
Antiquities and Monuments of *Ireland*  
to your Lordship's candid Approbation.

To pray for the Prosperity and Con-  
tinuance of your Lordship's Illustrious  
Life, and that your noble Line may  
for ever flourish as a Security for the  
Blessing of Peace and Liberty to their  
Country, as it is my Duty, so, my  
Lord, is it my Ambition to appear upon  
all Occasions,

Your Lordship's

most obedient,

and most devoted

humble Servant,

*Dermo'd O Connor.*

# THE PEDIGREE

Of the RIGHT HONOURABLE the Present

## WILLIAM O'BRYEN, EARL of INCHQUIN,

TO KING MILES IUS of Spain.

**W**illiam O Bryen, *the fourth Earl of Inchiquin, married to the Lady Anne Hamilton, eldest Daughter and Coheir to George Hamilton, Earl of Orkney.*

William O Bryen, *third Earl of Inchiquin, married Mary Daughter to Sir Edward Villiers Knight, and Sister to the Earl of Jersey.*

William O Bryen, *second Earl of Inchiquin, married Lady Margaret Boyle, Daughter to Roger Boyle, first Earl of Orrery.*

Morough O Bryen, *fifth Lord Baron of Inchiquin, created first Earl of Inchiquin, married Elizabeth, Daughter of Sir William St. Leger, Knight, Lord President of Munster.*

Dermot O Bryen, *fourth Lord Baron of Inchiquin, married Ellen, Daughter of Sir Edmond Fitz Gerald of Ballinacloe, Knight.*

Morough O Bryen, *third Lord Baron of Inchiquin, married Margaret, Daughter of Sir Thomas Cusack, Knight, Lord Chancellor, and sometime one of the Lord Justices of Ireland.*

Morough O Bryen, *second Lord Baron of Inchiquin, married to Mable, Daughter of Christopher Nugent, Lord Baron of Delvin.*

Dermot O Bryen, *first Lord Baron of Inchiquin, married to Lady Margaret, Daughter to Donough, second Earl of Thomond.*

Morough O Bryen, *fourth Son to the last Prince of Thomond, married to Ellenor, Daughter of Thomas Fitz Gerald, called Knight of Valley.*

Turlough O Bryen, *Prince of Limerick and Thomond, married to Joan Fitz Maurice, Daughter to Lord Fitz Maurice, alias Vulgo Balbus, Lord Baron of Kerry and Lixnaw.*

Teig an Condaig O Bryen, *married to Annabella Pourk, Daughter to Mac William.*

Turlough O Bryen, *married Slany, Daughter to Loughlen Ladir Macnamara.*

Bryen Cathaneny O Bryen, *married Slanyin Macnamara.*

Mahon O Bryen, *married the Daughter of the Prince of Leinster, of the lineal Descent of Dairy Barrach, Son of Cathaoir More, Monarch of Ireland.*

Muiriartagh O Bryen, *married to Sarah, Daughter to O Kennedy.*

Turlough O Bryen, *married Aurina, Daughter to Daniel More Macarty.*

Teige O Bryen, *married Fynwola, Daughter to, Kennedy Connor na Suidini O Bryen married More Macnamara.*

Donogh Cairbreagh O Bryen, *married Sarah the Daughter of Donough O Kennedy.*

Daniel More O Bryen, *vixit temp. Henrici II. King of Cashel and Limerick 30 Years, married Orlacam, Daughter to Mac Morough.*

Turlough O Bryen, *King of Munster 5 Years married to Nariait, Daughter to O Foghertha.*

Dermot O Bryen, *King of Munster 4 Years, married Sarah, Daughter of Teig Macarty.*

Turlough O Bryen, *ruled as Monarch of Ireland 12 Years, married More, Daughter of O Heyne.*

Teige O Bryen, *married More the King of Leinster's Daughter. Bryen Boiroimh, Monarch of Ireland 12 Years; he was slain in the great Battel of Cloun Tarf; and was married to Gormfhlaith, Daughter to Morough Mac Flinn.*

Kennedy, *King of Munster 18 Years, married to Beibhion, the Daughter of Archadh, Son of Morough, Lord of West*

Conought.

Lorcan, *King of Thomond six Years.*

Laghina, *King of Thomond three Years.*

Corc, *King of Munster 17 Years.*

Anluan, *Prince of Munster.*

Mahon vixit circa septimum

seculum post nat. Christi.

Turlough, *King of Munster 36 Years.*

Cathal, *King of Thomond seven Years.*

Aodh Caomh, *King of Thomond 41 Years.*

Conall, *Prince of Thomond.*

Eochaidh Baldearg, *King of Munster 29 Years.*

Carthan Fionn, *King of Thomond 45 Years.*

Bluid, *King of Thomond 16 Years.*

Cas, *King of Thomond 16 Years.*

Conall Eachluath, *King of Munster 13 Years.*

Luighaidh Mean, *King of Munster 27 Years.*

Aongus Cnaitreach, *King of Munster 30 Years.*

Fearchorb, *King of Munster 16 Years.*

Modh Corb, *King of Munster 27 Years.*

Cormac Cas, *King of Munster 12 Years.*

Oiollu Oluim, *King of Munster 27 Years.*

Eogan More, *King of Munster 15 Years.*

Modha Neid, *King of Munster 23 Years.*

Deary, *Prince of Munster.*

Deirghthine, *half King of Munster 13 Years.*

Eana Munchaoim, *half King of Munster, 10 Years.*

Luighthead More, *King of Munster 2 Years.*

Modhateibhis, *Prince of Munster.*

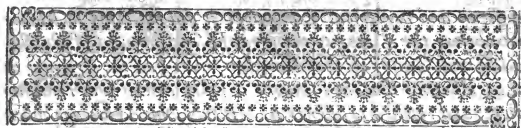
Muireach, *King of Munster 17 Years.*

Eochaidh Garbh, *King of Munster 36 Years.*

Duach Donn Dalta Deagha Monarch

<p><i>Monarch of Ireland 10 Years.</i>  <i>Cairbre Luigilesthan, King of Munster 28 Years.</i>  <i>Luigheach Laigoe, Monarch of Ireland 5 Years.</i>  <i>Jonadmar Monarch of Ireland 3 Years.</i>  <i>Niadheaghamuin, Monarch of Ireland 7 Years.</i>  <i>Adamair, Monarch of Ireland 5 Years.</i>  <i>Festchorb, Monarch of Ireland 11 Years.</i>  <i>Mothechorb, Monarch of Ireland 7 Years.</i>  <i>Cobhthaig Caomh, King of Munster 29 Years.</i>  <i>Reachtaridcarg, Monarch 20 Years.</i>  <i>Luigheach Laige Monarch 7 Years.</i></p>	<p><i>Eochaidh, Monarch 7 Years.</i>  <i>Oiliot Fionn Monarch 9 Years.</i>  <i>Art, Monarch 6 Years.</i>  <i>Luigheach Lamhdearg, Monarch 7 Years.</i>  <i>Eochaidh Vairceas Monarch 12 Years.</i>  <i>Luigheach Jardon Monarch 9 Years.</i>  <i>Eanadarg Monarch 12 Years.</i>  <i>Duach Fionn, Monarch 5 Years.</i>  <i>Seadhna Jonarraig, Monarch 20 Years.</i>  <i>Brezfrigh, Monarch 9 Years.</i>  <i>Art Imleach, Monarch 22 Years.</i>  <i>Eilium, Monarch 1 Year.</i>  <i>Rothachta Monarch 7 Years.</i>  <i>Roane, Prince of Ireland.</i>  <i>Faillhe, King of Munster. 26 Years.</i></p>	<p><i>Cas Cead Chaigneach, King of Munster 26 Years.</i>  <i>Aildergoid, Monarch 7 Years.</i>  <i>Muineamoin, Monarch 5 Years.</i>  <i>Caschothacht King of Munster 13 Years.</i>  <i>Irecoarda, Prince of Ireland.</i>  <i>Rethachta, Monarch of Ireland. Glas.</i>  <i>Nuagatt Deaghlamh, Rofa, Prince of Ireland.</i>  <i>Eochaidh Feobhargus, Monarch of Ireland 20 Years.</i>  <i>Conmaal, Monarch 20 Years.</i>  <i>Heber Fionn, half Monarch of Ireland one Year.</i>  <i>Milefius, King of Spain.</i>  <i>Vide Macarty More's Pedigree to Noah.</i></p>
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# P R E F A C E

BY THE

## T R A N S L A T O R.



Notwithstanding the great Length of the original Preface of Dr. Keating, I am oblig'd to detain the Reader by a short Account of this Translation, the Inducements that led to it, and the Objections made against it.

The genuine Merit of the following History is so far from being question'd by the Learned Irish, that the Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom have preserv'd it as an invaluable Collection of Antiquity; and the Author has said so much in its Vindication, that I submit it to the Impartial and Judicious, only desiring it might be read with that degree of Candor which justly belongs to a Subject that runs through so many dark and unlearned Ages. This Chronicle of Ireland is not offer'd to the World as an infallible Record, perfectly free from Errors and Mistakes, for it is impossible that the true Origin of any Kingdom or People in the World can be discover'd at this remote Distance; and it is certain that the Histories of all Nations, the higher they are traced, the more they are incumber'd with Fictions, and often with Relations utterly incredible. But does it follow that the whole of these Accounts is nothing but Fable, because some Matters are recorded which carry an Air of Falshood? If this Rule be admitted, no History or Chronicle in the World, except the inspir'd Writings, would escape; for human Compositions, notwithstanding all imaginable Care, can never claim a Right to Infallibility.

It is well known that a Translation of Dr. Keating's History has been often attempted, but without Success; nor did the Design miscarry from any Discouragements it met with, but being a Work of great Expence, and written in a

[ A ]

difficult

difficult and mysterious Language, it did not come to Maturity before this Time, to the great Disappointment of the Nobility and Gentry of that Kingdom, who had the Original in that Esteem, that they thought it justly deserv'd a Translation, and resolv'd to support it. It was some Years ago when I entertain'd the first Thoughts of this Undertaking, and I communicated my self to Dr. Anthony Raymond of Dublin, who approv'd of my Design, and promised to assist me in it, but some Misfortunes falling upon his own private Affairs, I desist'd from prosecuting my Resolution at that Time. When I arriv'd in England I could have no Prospect in a strange Country of Encouragement to publish so chargeable a Work, but was again solicited by the Importunity of Friends to resume my Design of a Translation, and offer it to the World by way of Subscription: I undertook the Work and finish'd it, and have met with Encouragement beyond my Expectation. The most noble Personages in the Kingdom of Ireland for Birth, Quality, and Learning, have done me the Honour of their Names, which is an Evidence of the high Esteem they entertain'd of the Original, and that they judg'd it to be so far from being an old, insipid Legend of Fables, that they valued it as the choicest Collection of ancient Records that possibly can be recover'd from the Ruins of Time, to support the Honour of their Ancestors, and to give the World a just Idea of the Dignity of the Country where they were born.

There is an Author, who has conceal'd his Name, that has with great Ignorance and Envy attempted to explode and ridicule the Labours of the great Dr. Keating, and to stigmatise the following History as a fictitious and romantick Composition. He has likewise bestowed some Flowers of his Oratory in representing the Weakness of my Abilities, and my Incapacity for the Work I had undertaken. What relates to my self being intirely Personal, and weak, insignificant Scandal, is below the Concern of the Reader and my own, and therefore I shall only in this Place answer an Objection or two wherein he has aspers'd the Character of my Author, and vindicate the Reputation of this History, whose intrinsick Worth, in the Opinion of Men of Learning, is plac'd beyond the Reach of his Malice, though among the Injudicious, and before the publishing of this Translation, his Spleen had in some Measure the Effect he desired, and in a small degree prejudic'd me in my Subscriptions.

The



*The Prefacer to the Memoirs of the Marquis of Clanricarde promises the World in his pompous Title Page a Learned Dissertation, wherein was inserted a Digression containing several curious Observations concerning the Antiquities of Ireland. And he has fulfill'd his Word so far as to labour in the Proof that there are no real Antiquities in the Kingdom of Ireland, that their Records are not genuine, but the Invention of Bards or Druids who in the Times of Ignorance and Superstition impos'd upon the World, and that the Chronicle of Dr. Keating is a Collection from those spurious and romantick Compositions, whose Authority he knew to be invalid, and to whose Testimony he never gave any real Belief. But the Insolence of this Censure appears not only by destroying in one Breath the Evidence of all the national Chronicles of Ireland, but as it proceeds from a Person, who never had in his Possession one of those ancient Records, which if he had, his Ignorance and want of Skill in the Language made him incapable to understand. It is certain that the Abilities of this Prefacer in the Irish Tongue, extends no farther than the Knowledge of a School Boy and a small Acquaintance with the modern Characters of that Language, and the utmost of his Learning consists only in turning over some fabulous Tracts of a late Date, such as Bruighean Chaorthuin, Eachtra an Ghiolla Dheacair, Cath Fionntragh, &c. which by the way was the true Reason why he never perform'd his Promise to the World of publishing a History of Ireland from the ancient Records; for he was sensible his Ignorance of the original Irish Language render'd him incapable to fulfil it; and therefore it is no Wonder that he has traduced those venerable Antiquities as false and incredible Fictions, having no other way to make a tolerable Excuse to those Persons, whom for many Years he put in Expectation of an Irish History. I confess I have in one Sense done him an irreparable Damage by publishing this Translation, because he can no longer impose upon his Friends by amusing them with an History of Ireland, and consequently he must sensibly be affected by the Discontinuance of the many Favours he has receiv'd upon the Merits of that Prospect. However it must always be esteem'd a malicious and ungenerous Practice, for a Man to throw Aspersions upon the publick Records of a Nation, upon whose Character and Reputation he has been supported for many Years, and upon whose Authority he laid a Scheme for his future Subsistence.*

*It is with great Confidence asserted by this Prefacer, that there is no such Person in this Age as an Antiquary throughout the Kingdom of Ireland; when it is most evident, and I call upon Thousands to attest it, that there are Numbers of them, whose Employment it is to transcribe the ancient Chronicles, and to instruct the Youth in the proper Language of the Country: And his Malice is equally conspicuous where he says, that the only remaining Copy of Dr. Keating's History is in the Hands of the Baron of Cathir; since it is unquestionably certain, that many Copies have been transcrib'd, and the Manuscripts are preserv'd in several Hands, and scatter'd through most Parts of the Kingdom.*

*Dr. Lloyd, it seems, we are told with great Triumph, in his Catalogue of Irish Manuscripts he found in Trinity College Dublin, makes no Mention of the Psalter of Cashel and Tara; from whence it is infer'd, that there are no such Records, and consequently to pretend to quote, them is an Imposition and an Abuse upon Mankind. In Answer to this Charge it must be observ'd, that Dr. Lloyd was a profess'd Stranger to the old Manuscripts of that Kingdom, as he generously confesses in his Archæologia Britannica; and it is well known that there is a large Folio in fine Vellum fairly written some hundred Years ago in Balimore in the Country of Meath, which contains the Historical Transcript of those Psalters, the Book of Ardmagh, and other valuable Antiquities. This choice Record is now preserv'd in Trinity College, which I had the Favour of perusing, and I kept it in my Custody for six Months. I take this Opportunity to express my Gratitude to the learned Dr. Anthony Raymond of Trym, for the Favour he did me in entring into a Bond of a thousand Pounds, as Security for my restoring this ancient Manuscript after my Perusal of it.*

*What this Prefacer observes, concerning a Translation of Dr. Keating's History by the Procurement of the Right Honourable the Earl of Orrery, Grandfather to the Present Earl, is true in Fact, and I confess that this Chronicle was translated by Timothy Roe O Connor, the Father of Conn O Connor lately deceased; but the Reflection made upon it, that the Earl suppress'd this Translation out of Justice to the World, which he resolv'd not to abuse with Lies and Fables, is a Charge as false as malicious. For the true Reason why that noble Lord refused to let that Translation come abroad, was to enhance the Value of it, and to make his Manuscript the greater Curiosity which would have lost much of its Esteem if it had been printed and publish'd.*

*Thus*



Thus far have I followed and detected the Ignorance and Peevishness of this Writer, whose Envy and Disappointments have carried him into manifold Errors, and into the lowest of personal Reflections. But I leave him to be corrected by the Torment of his own Mind, and the Contempt of his former Friends, who justly sensible of his ungenerous Proceedings, his invincible Malice, and his notorious want of Capacity, have banished him their Acquaintance as an infamous Renegado and wicked Libeller upon the Glory and Honour of his Native Country.

For want of a more convenient Opportunity, and because the following Information came too late to be inserted in the Body of the History, the Account I have received shall be communicated in this Place.

There has been a Dispute among learned Men, whether the ancient Kings of Ireland of the Milesian Race, wore Crowns of Gold after the Manner of other Nations. We are inform'd by Hector Boetius in his second and tenth Book, that the Kings of Scotland from the Time of Fergus to the Reign of Achaius, used a plain Crown of Gold *militaris Valli forma*; in the Form of a military Trench: And it is more than probable, that in this Practice they followed the Irish Monarchs from whom they derived their Descent and Customs. And this Conjecture is still render'd more reasonable by a Golden Cap supposed to be a Provincial Crown that was found in the Year sixteen hundred ninety two, in the County of Tipperary, at a Place call'd Barnanely by the Irish, and by the English the Devil's Bit; it was discover'd about ten Foot under Ground by some Workmen that were digging up Turf for firing. This Cap or Crown weighs about five Ounces; the Border and the Head is raised in Chasework in the Form here represented; and it seems to bear some Resemblance to the close Crown of the Eastern Empire, which was composed of the Helmet together with a Diadem, as the learned Selden observes in his Titles of Honour, Part I. Chap. 8.



Some of the Antiquarians of Ireland have imagin'd, that this was the Crown worn by some Provincial Kings under the Command of Bryen Boiroimhe, who beat the Danes in so many Battels; others are rather inclined to believe that it belong'd to the Irish Monarchs before the Planting of Christianity in that Kingdom; and they give this Reason, because it is not adorned with a Cross, which was the common

*Ensign of Christian Princes. However it is a valuable Piece of Curiosity, and would unavoidably have been melted down, had it not been preserv'd by Joseph Comerford Esq; a curious Gentleman descended from a younger Brother of Comerford in the County of Stafford, who attended King John in his Expedition into Ireland, and there married the Niece of Hugo de Lacy a great Favourite of that King. Ever since which Time the Family has flourish'd in that Country, and were formerly titular Barons of Danganmore. This Gentleman being render'd incapable, by Reason of his Religion, to purchase Lands in his own Country, has bought the Marquisate of Anglure with a good Estate upon the River Aule in Champagne, which he has settled in default of Issue from himself, upon his Brother Captain Luke Comerford (an Officer of great Esteem in the French Service) and his Heirs Male, and in default of such Issue upon his Kinsman Sir John Comerford, (a Major General, and Colonel of a Regiment of Foot in the Service of the King of Spain) and his Male Issue. Sir George Skiddy a near Relation to Mr. Comerford has likewise acquired a good Estate in France. This Gentleman is a great Grandson to Sir George Skiddy formerly of Waterford, and also of Skiddy of Skiddy's Castle in the County of Cork, is a Knight of the military Order of St. Lewis, and a Colonel of Foot; to whom a Plate of his Arms is humbly inscrib'd.*



Some few Errors having escap'd our Observation, most of which are in the Dates of the Years; the Reader is refer'd to the regal Table of Kings, which Corrects those Mistakes; the other are as follows.

**I**N Dr. Keating's Preface Page 14 line xiv. for *British Extraction* read *Danish Extraction*.

In the History Page 77. the fifth line from the Bottom, for *Crete* upon his left Hand read *Germany* upon his left Hand, Page 81 line 22. for *France West* read *France East*. p. 135. l. 8. from the Bottom, for *King of Arms*, r. *Antiquary who hung them up*. p. 136. l. 8. for *blazon'd*, r. *painted*, and so in other Pages following. p. 233. l. 23. dele and *O Bryens*, and read *O Sulevans*. p. 233. r. *Britain*, and so in the other Pages following in the First Part. p. 239. for *but he was at last*, r. *but he at last was*. p. 292. l. 19. for *three the*, r. *the three Brothers*. p. 311. for *Nubirgenfis*, r. *Nubrigenfis*. p. 312. l. 8. from the Bottom, for *Turin*, r. *Tunri*. p. 316. l. 5. from the Bottom, for *Eochadb*, r. *Eogan*. l. 3. for *Irish Camp*, r. *Scots Camp*.



## DIRECTIONS for the BINDER.

**A**fter the Dedication put the Lord *Inchiquin's* Pedigree, then the Translator's Preface, Dr. Keating's Preface, the List of Subscribers, the Table of Kings, and the Map of *Ireland* before the History; and after the History the three Sheets of Pedigrees, then the twenty eight Plates of Pedigrees, and after them the twelve Plates of Coats of Arms as the Plates are Number'd.



# Dr. KEATING's

## P R E F A C E.



HOEVER undertakes to write the HISTORY of any Nation, or Kingdom, ought to give a true and impartial Account, not only of the Country and the Laws, but also of the Customs and Manners of the People: And therefore, having undertaken to deduce the History of *Ireland* [from the most distant Ages; I think myself oblig'd to remove before-hand, those false and injurious Representations, which have been publish'd, concerning the ancient *Irish*, who, for above these three thousand Years, have inhabited this Kingdom, as well as what relates to the old *English*, who have been settled here ever since the Reign of King HENRY II.

The *English* HISTORIANS, who have since that Time wrote about the Affairs of *Ireland*, have industriously sought occasion to lessen the Reputation of both, as appears by *Giraldus Cambrensis*, *Spencer*, *Stainburst*, *Morrison*, *Campion*, and others, who, when they write of *Ireland*, seem to imitate the Beetle, which, when enliven'd by the Influence of the Summer Heats, flies abroad, passes over the delightful Fields, neglectful of the sweet Blossoms, or fragrant Flowers that are in its way, till at last directed by its sordid Inclination, it settles itself upon some nauseous Excrement. Thus the above-mention'd Authors proceed, when they write of this Kingdom: What was worthy or commendable in the *Irish* Nobility and Gentry, they pass over, take no Notice of their Piety, Learning and Courage, of their charitable Disposition to build Churches and religious Houses, with the great Privileges and Endowments they confer'd and settled upon them: They omit to speak of the Protection and Encouragement they gave to their Historiographers, and to other Men of Learning to whom their Liberality was so abounding, that they not only reliev'd the Indigency of those who made their Applications to them, but made publick Invitations expressly for an Opportunity to bestow Gratifications upon Persons of Merit and Desert. They forget to mention their Virtues and commendable Actions; but in their Accounts of this Kingdom, these Authors dwell upon the Manners of the lower and baser sort of People, relate idle and fabulous Stories,

ries, invented on purpose to amuse the Vulgar and Ignorant, and pass over all that might be said with Justice, to the Honour of the Nobility and Gentry of that Nation.

It is certain that the old *Irish* before the *English* Invasion were a generous and brave People, as appears particularly by the Trouble they gave the *Romans*, by the Assistance they afforded the *Scots*, and by obliging the *Britains* to erect a Wall of a vast Extent between *England* and *Scotland*, to defend themselves from the terrible Incursions of the valiant *Irish*; and though the *Romans* were oblig'd to keep up an Army of fifty two thousand Foot and three hundred Horse, to preserve the Boundaries and to secure the Limits of their

✓ Conquests, and likewise had in constant Pay a Body of twenty three thousand Foot and thirteen hundred Horse, to protect the Sea-Coasts and other Parts of the Country from the Hostilities of the *Scots* and *Picts*, yet the Bravery of the ancient *Irish* broke through their Lines and Fortifications, and often defeated the whole Power of the *Roman* Army, and carried off immense Booty from the Inhabitants, as *Samuel Daniel* an *English* Historian in his Chronicle expressly testifies.

*Cormac mac Cuillenain* the King of *Munster* and Archbishop of *Cashel* gives an Account in his *Psalter*, that the irresistible Valour of the *Irish* and *Picts*, compell'd the *Britains* three several Times to give up as a Sacrifice the chief Commander of the *Romans*, in Order to stop the Fury of their Arms and obtain their Friendship. Nor is it to be forgotten into what Miseries and Distress the *Britains* were reduced by the *Irish* in the Reign of *Vortigern*, who found himself oblig'd to retain *Hengist* and his *German* Auxiliaries to defend him from their Incursions, as the same *English* Annalist particularly asserts. The same Author relates that the *Romans*, who call'd themselves the Conquerors of the World, were forc'd to erect fourteen strong Garrisons to protect them from the Hostilities of the *Scots* and *Picts*, who harass'd them with continual Inroads, and cut off Numbers of their legionary Soldiers, notwithstanding they were assisted by the whole Power of the *Britains* from the Time of *Julius Cæsar*, to the Reign of *Valentinian* the third Emperor of that Name, which consisted of the Space of five hundred Years. The *Romans* lost the Command of *Britain* in the Year of our Redemption four hundred forty one; before which Time it was that the Contest happen'd between *Theodosius* and *Maximus*, which obliged the latter to transport with him a considerable Number of *Britains*, into that Part of *France* call'd *Armorica* or *Little Britain*; the Natives of that Country he expell'd, and fixed the *Britains* in their Possessions, whose Posterity are known in that Place to this Day.

There are Authors in being of some Antiquity, who are very solicitous to blemish the Character of the ancient *Irish*, particularly *Strabo* in his fourth Book asserts, that they were Cannibals, and lived upon human Flesh. In answer to this opprobrious Charge it is to be observ'd, that *Strabo* had no Opportunities to inform himself of the Disposition and Manners of the *Irish*, nor is there any Chronicle relating to that Nation, that gives the least Encouragement to this Opinion, or any Instance of this Practice to be found in the ancient Records, except of a Lady whose Name was *Eithny* Daughter to a King of *Leinster*, that was nurs'd in the Country of *Deisies* in the Province of *Munster*, whose Fosterers fed her with the Flesh of Children in Order to make her the sooner ripe for matrimonial

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monial Embraces. But the Reason of this it must be observ'd was to accomplish a Prediction which foretold that the Fosterers of this Lady should be fixed in the Possession of large Territories by the Prince who was to be her Husband, who proved to be *Aneas mac Nadfaioich* King of *Munster*, as will be taken Notice of in the Body of the following History.

But is this candid, to pronounce upon the Manners of a whole Nation from one Example? and if such Barbarity were consistent with the general Disposition of the People, is it not strange, that this Instance of *Eithny* should stand by it self upon Record, which it would have been impertinent to mention, if the Body of the old *Irish* concur'd in this savage Practice. The Testimony of this Author therefore is not to be regarded, who asserts, that the eating of human Flesh was a Custom in that Nation, which is impossible to be proved but from one single Instance, and even this Action was committed in the Times of Paganism and Idolatry, and upon a particular Occasion. The Authority of *Strabo* is well known by the Learned not to be sacred, nor will this Aspersion affect the Humanity of the ancient *Irish* among sober and impartial Judges.

Never was any Nation under Heaven so traduced by Malice and Ignorance as the ancient *Irish*; Among other Falshoods and Absurdities *Solinus* in his twenty first Chapter asserts, that there are no *Bees* in the Island, that the Male Children receive the first Food they eat from the Point of a Sword, and scandalously relates that the *Irish* wash their Faces with the Blood of their Enemies whom they slew in Battel; and these Facts are positively laid down without Evidence or Quotation, and with no other Design than to stigmatise a Nation he hated, to all Posterity.

*Pomponius* a Writer of the same Authority speaking in his third Book of the ancient *Irish*, gives them the Character of a People *Omnium Virtutum ignari, ignorant of all Virtues*; Other Writers might be produced who fixed the same false Imputation upon the *Irish*, without the least Certainty; which made the Judicious *Camden*, when he spoke of the Manners of the *Irish*, express himself thus, with great Truth and Integrity: *Horum commemoramus, dignos fide Testes non habemus. We only mention the Names of these Writers, for we have no Witnesses to depend upon worthy of Credit or Belief.*

The same *Camden* refutes expressly one of the Falshoods of *Solinus*, who asserted that there were no *Bees* in Ireland, where he says, *Apum est tanta Multitudo ut non solum alvearibus sed etiam in Arborum & terræ Cavernis reperiantur; so great is the Multitude of Bees in that Country that they are to be found not only in Hives but in the hollow Places of Trees and of the Earth.* The *English* Writers particularly have never fail'd to exert their Malice against the *Irish*, and represent them as a base and servile People. I shall here mention some remarkable Instances of their Falshoods, as they have transcrib'd them from that ignorant and malicious Writer *Giraldus Cambrensis*, the great Patron of these mercenary and sordid Historians. This positive Writer asserts with an Air of Certainty, that the Kingdom of Ireland paid Tribute and Chieftry to King *Arthur*, who obliged them to this Acknowledgment of Subjection in the City of *Leon*, in the Year of our Lord five hundred and nineteen, as *Campion* observes in the second Chapter of the second Book of his Chronicle, where he says, that one *Giollamara* was King of Ireland at that Time; yet notwithstanding the Author of the *Policricon* and other *English* Writers of a later Date make mention of *Giollamara*

King





King of *Ireland*, yet I challenge the Malice and the Industry of the most inveterate of our Enemies to find in the Antiquaries of *Ireland* that there ever was a King of that Name, unless they are deceived by the Analogy of the Sound, and intend *Mortough More Mac Arca*, who was Monarch of the Island in King *Arthur's* Time, and sent six of his Brothers into *Scotland*, one of whom *Feargus More Mac Arca*, became afterwards King, and raised himself to the Sovereignty of that Country. It is certain that King *Arthur* himself fell by the Sword of the *Scots* and *Picts*, and of equal Credit it is that the *Feargus* abovemention'd was the first King of the *Scots*; though *Hector Boetius* a fabulous Writer labours to evince the contrary, and to prove that twenty nine Kings sat upon the Throne of that Kingdom before *Feargus* wore the Crown. He relates likewise with the same Certainty, that *Feargus* the Son of *Fearaghar*, King of *Ireland*, was the first King of the *Scotish* Race, which is an Assertion without Support; for never was there a Monarch of *Ireland* of the Name of *Fearaghar*, and therefore *Feargus Mac Fearaghar* was not King of *Scotland*, as *Hector Boetius* confidently lays down. It is certain that *Mortough More* King of *Ireland* was pleased that his Brother *Feargus Mac Arca* should wear the Crown of *Scotland*, but upon Condition to pay Homage to *Mortough*, who in the Annals of *Ireland* is call'd *Rex Scotorum King, of the Scots*, to intimate that he possess'd the Sovereignty over the two Kingdoms of *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and therefore was a Prince of a superior Note than to submit or confess himself a Tributary to King *Arthur*.

*Speed* in his Chronicle with greater Justice observes that the King of *Ireland* ow'd no Manner of Chiefry or Tribute to King *Arthur*, but that both Princes engaged in a League Offensive and Defensive against all their Enemies. This he calls *Jus Belli socialis*, the Right of a social War, in the same Manner as the Treaty is concluded between the King of *Spain* and the *Emperor*; not that it was intended as if the *Emperor* was to pay a Tribute to the King of *Spain*, or the King of *Spain* was under any Acknowledgments of Chiefry to him, but they were bound mutually to support one another against all Attempts. The same Friendship and Stipulation was establish'd between King *Arthur* and *Mortough*, they were equally obliged to defend each other, but under no Testimonies of Submission either Side. And the Truth of this Equality between the two Kings is abundantly confirm'd by the Testimony of *Nubigenfis*, who in the twenty sixth Chapter of the second Book of his History has this Expression concerning the Kingdom of *Ireland*; *Hibernia nunquam subjacuit externæ Ditioni*, *Ireland never lay under a foreign Power*; and *Cambrensis* himself agrees with this Opinion in his forty sixth Chapter, where he thus speaks to the same Purpose; *Hibernia ab initio ab omni alienarum Gentium incurfu libera permanfit*; *Ireland from the beginning remain'd free from the Incurfion of foreign Nations*; from whence it is evident that neither King *Arthur* nor any other Power received Tribute or any servile Acknowledgment from the Kingdom of *Ireland*, untill they submitted to King *Henry* the Second: Nor is it to be supposed that the *Britains* could lay Claim to any Authority over that Island, since the hardy *Romans* could never make her tributary, so far from that, that instead of losing her Liberty, she not only preserv'd her own Freedom, but was a Safeguard and Protection to other Nations, and was a Scourge to the *Romans* and other Oppressors, wherever she display'd her Banners.

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The learned Camden gives this Testimony in his *Britannia*, *Cum suum Romani Imperium undique propagassent, multi proculdubio ex Hispaniâ, Galliâ & Britannâ hic se receperunt, ut iniquissimo Romanorum jugo colla subducerent: When the Romans had extended their Empire on all Sides, many no doubt out of Spain, France and Britain removed into Ireland, in Order to avoid the most unjust Yoke of the Romans.* From this Evidence it is to be collected, not only that the Romans never extended their Conquests into Ireland, but that the miserable People of the neighbouring Countries found a Refuge from the Oppressions of the Romans among the invincible Irish, who were never subdued; whoever so much envies the Glory of the ancient Irish as to assert that they were under the Power of the Romans, let him have recourse to the same judicious Writer, who says, *Ego Animum vix inducere possum ut hanc Regionem in Romanorum Potestatem ullo Tempore concessisse credam; It will be the utmost Difficulty to make me believe that the Country of Ireland was at any Time under the Dominion of the Romans.*

*Cambrensis* (an inexhaustible Fund of Falshood) injuriously relates, in his ninth Chapter, that the Irish Men succeeded in their Brother's Bed, and married the Women who had been before married to their Brothers, and that Tythes were never paid to the Clergy in Ireland till the Arrival of Cardinal John Papirion from Rome, which will appear to be a Forgery and an Imposition upon Mankind, not only in the Body of this History, but in this preliminary Vindication now before us. The same Author speaking in his seventh Chapter of the natural Curiosities of Ireland, writes, that there is a Fountain in the Province of Munster which instantly makes the Hair of the Head grey when it is dipp'd into it; and that there is another Fountain in Ulster of a quite contrary Quality, that upon wetting it restores the Hair to its genuine Colour; tho' upon a Survey there are now no Footsteps; not even in the Traditions of the People, remaining of such Wells, nor were they in the Days of *Cambrensis*, who imposes upon the World with his fabulous Rarities, and amuses his Readers at the Expence of his own Credit and Veracity. Equally worthy of Belief is what he relates in his twenty second Chapter, that when the Gentlemen of Ireland, who had been at Variance, were willing to become Friends, they used the Custom of Kissing the Relicks of Saints in the Presence of a Bishop; as a solemn Testimony of their Reconciliation. But what follows is monstrous and incredible, that they took a Draught of each other's Blood. This is boldly asserted with his usual Effrontery, and without Proof or Foundation; for if this Practice had been received among the Irish, how come the professed Antiquaries and Historians of the Kingdom to be silent and take no Notice of it, who were bound to record such a Custom, if it had been used, under no less Penalty, than upon Omission of being degraded and deprived of their Patrimonies? So that this Romantick Writer is to be stript of the Character of a true Historian, and to be placed among the vain Authors of Fables. In his tenth Chapter he entertains us with a notorious Falshood, and gives a Character of the Irish; that they are a penurious and poor spirited People; his Expression is, *Est autem Gens hæc Gens inhospita; The Irish are an inhospitable People.* But *Stairhurst* gives a quite contrary Testimony, and sufficiently confutes this Scandal; his Words are, *Sunt sane Homines hospitalissimi, neque illis ulla in re magis gratificari potest quam vel sponte ac voluntate eorum Domus frequentare; The Irish are the most hospitable Men, nor can you*

~ oblige them more than by visiting them frequently at their own Houses of your own Accord and without Invitation.

This *Cambrensis* has perverted a Fact of great Consequence in the *Irish* History, where he asserts positively, that it was the Queen of *Meath* who ran away from her Husband with *Diarmuid Nangall* King of *Leinster*; but the universal Testimony of the *Irish* Antiquaries is against him upon this Subject, who agree unanimously, that that lascivious Lady was the Wife of *Teirnan O Ruorke*, King of *Breifny*, that her Name was *Dearbhurgill*, and she was Daughter to *Morogh Mac Floin* King of *Meath*. He writes that the Rivers *Switz*, *Feoir* and *Bearow* flow out of the Mountain of *Sliabh Bladhma*, which is a manifest Falshood easie to be disproved; for it is evident that the *Bearow* rises out of the East Point of *Sliabh Bladhma*, and that *Fivire* and *Feoir* proceed out of the East Point of *Mount Aildun*, otherwise call'd *Sliabh Bearnain* in the Territory of *Curnin*. He abuses the World in the twenty fifth Chapter of his History, by saying that the Ceremony of Inauguration in making Kings of the Family of *O Donill* was perform'd in this Manner; All the Inhabitants of the Country were assembled upon an high Hill, here they kill'd a white Mare, whose Flesh they boiled in a great Cauldron in the middle of a Field, when it was sufficiently boiled the King was to sup up the Broth with his Mouth, and eat the Flesh out of his Hands without the Assistance of a Knife or any other Instrument but with his Teeth only; then he divided the rest of the Flesh among the Assembly, and afterwards bathed himself in the Broth. This is a Fiction not to be parallel'd, compounded of Ignorance and Malice, and directly opposite to the Testimony of the *Irish* Antiquaries, who have deliver'd to us an express Description of this Ceremony. These Writers inform us that the *Irish* Kings of the Line of *O Donill* sat upon the Summit of a Hill surrounded with the principal Nobility and Gentry of their Country; One of the Chief of them advancing towards him, presented him with a strait white Wand, and upon the Delivery of it he used this Form: *Revive, O King, the Command of thine own Country, and distribute Justice impartially among thy Subjects.* The Ceremony of the Rod was attended with an excellent Moral, for it was strait and white, to recommend Uprightness in Judgment, and to intimate that a Prince should rule with clean and unspotted Hands, should keep them white and never stain them with the Blood of his People. So that the Confidence of *Cambrensis* is the more astonishing, who conceals so rational and laudable a Custom, and introduces in the Room of it a savage and abominable Practice, that has no Foundation in Truth or in History, but is the Effect of inveterate Malice, which urges him on into Absurdities and monstrous Relations, which derive more Blemishes upon the Character of his History than upon the ancient *Irish*, whom at all Hazards he resolves to traduce. It is certain that this royal Family has produced Persons of the first Order for Religion and Piety, and many of this illustrious Line have retired from the World and ended their Days in Privacy and devout Contemplations, particularly *St. Columbe*, whose Memory among the *Irish* will be ever sacred. Nor is it to be supposed that the Nobility of *Ireland*, who were a polite and civilized People, would permit the Kings of *O Donill* to make use of this abominable Custom, had they been so disposed; and it is unjust to charge this Family with such a savage Inclination, since they were Princes of strict Piety and exemplary Virtue, and abhor'd a Ceremony so odious, which was inconsis-



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sent with the Religion they profess'd, and favour'd so strongly of Pagan Superstition. This therefore is another Falshood of *Cambrensis*, which ought to destroy his Credit for ever among Lovers of Truth, and brand him with an indelible Mark of Infamy to all Posterity.

There is one *Spencer*, a Writer of a Chronicle, who in the thirty third Page of his History asserts with great Injustice, that *Eigfrid* King of the *Pratambi*, and *Edgar* King of *England*, exercised a civil Jurisdiction over the Kingdom of *Ireland*, but he brings no Evidence to support this Opinion; and as it opposes the authentic Records of the Kingdom, it must be manifestly false: Besides it is well known that the *English* Authors themselves are forced to confess that the *Saxons* destroy'd all the publick Monuments and Chronicles of that Nation, and defaced or melted down all the Coins before their own Time, with a Design that there should no certain Memorial remain of the Transactions of former Ages. And *Daniel* agrees that the principal Part of the *British* Antiquities are lost, as *Gildas* complains in the fourth Part of his History.

I remember that *Rider* a Latin Lexicographer (in treating of the Word *Brigaine*) is of Opinion that *Britannia* does not receive its Derivation from *Brutus*, because it should then with more Propriety be call'd *Brutia* or *Brutica*; and this Etymology would scarce have escap'd the Observation of *Julius Caesar*, *Cornelius Tacitus*, *Diiodorus Siculus*, the learned *Bede*, or other Writers, who have had occasion frequently to relate the Transactions of *Britain*, and yet make no mention of this Derivation. *Spencer* therefore should rather have search'd into the Name of his own Country, and attempted to clear some dark and incredible Passages in the *English* History, than to take upon him to write of the Affairs of *Ireland*; which it was impossible he could ever come to the Knowledge of. But what is most surprising in this audacious Writer, is, that he should undertake to fix the Genealogies of many of the Gentry of *Ireland*, and pretend to derive them originally from an *English* Extraction. He particularly takes Notice of seven Families of Note in that Kingdom, the Family of the *Mac Mahons*, *Swynies*, *Slybries*, *Macnamara's*, *Cavanagh's*, *Tuathallagh's*, and *Byrns*; and says that from *Urfa*, *Fitz Urfula*, or *Bears* (Surnames that are in *England*) descended the *Mac Mahons* of *Ulster*, and that *Beare* and *Mahon* are of the same Signification; and consequently, that the *Mac Mahons* aforesaid are derived from that House in *England*.

My Answer to this Assertion is, that it is as reasonable, by the Etymology of the Word, that the *Mac Mahons* of *Thimond*, or the *O Mohuys* of *Cairbry* should descend from thence, as the *Mac Mahons* of *Ulster*. And since it is certain that those of *Thimond* or *Cairbry* did not descend from thence, it may be concluded that the *Mac Mahons* of *Ulster* are not descended from the House of *Urfa*, or *Fitz Urfula* in *England*; but are literally derived from *Colla da Chroich* Son of *Eochaidh* *Dubhlaith* Son of *Cairbre Liffeachair* Monarch of *Ireland*, of the Royal Line of *Heremon*.

If the *Swynies* he would likewise persuade his Readers are originally of an *English* Descent, and are derived from a House call'd *Swyn* in that Kingdom; but this Assertion has no more Foundation than the former, for it may be question'd whether there ever was such a Family in *England*, and there is not an Antiquary in *Ireland* but knows and can demonstrate that the *Swynies* are a genuine Branch of the Race of *Heremon*.

The Family of the *Shybies*, this Writer pronounces of an *English* Extraction, but this is a Falshood so easily evinc'd, that it appears by their successive Genealogies that they are lineal Descendents from *Collavaish*, and that *Shighagh Mac Eaghduin*, *Mac Alla'druim Mac Donill*, (from whom descended the *Mac Donills* of Scotland and Ireland) was the great Ancestor to whom the *Mac Shybies* owe their Original.

With the same Freedom and Ignorance he deduces the Family of the *Macnamaras* from a House in England call'd *Mortumer*, but there is no Manner of Analogy in the sound to prove this Opinion, and it is certain that this Family are the genuine Offspring of a Person call'd *Cunnara*, from whom they were distinguish'd by the Title of *Clan* (which signifies the Children of) *Macnamara*. The proper Surname of this Tribe is *Siol Aodha*, that is the Issue of *Aodha*, and they came originally from *Caisin Mac Cais Mac Conilleagh*, Luath of the Posterity of *Ervir* or *Hiberus*.

This confident Author attempts to prove that the Surnames of the *Byrns*, of the *Tuathlaghs* and the *Cavanaghs*, were first brought out of Britain into Ireland. But the Evidence is very inconclusive, by which he supports this Conjecture, for he is deceived by the Similitude of Sound, which made him believe that these Names were derived from Words in the *British* Language; for instance, the Word *Brim*, he says, is the same as *Woody* in *English*; but supposing this to be true, yet the Family of the *Byrns* are not derived from the Word *Brim*, but from a Person whose Name was *Brammuit*. The Word *Toll*, he says, signifies *Hilly*, by which means the *Tuathlaghs* from thence must derive their Name, as he affirms. But notwithstanding *Toll* and *Hilly* we allow to be the same, yet *Toll* and *Tuathla* are vastly different. Besides it is well known that the ancient Family of the *Tuathlaghs* are descended from a Person whose Name was *Tnatball*, and therefore this Supposition of *Spencer* is false and ill grounded. This Writer is equally absurd in his Conjecture relating to the Family of the *Cavanaghs*. The Word *Cavanagh*, he says, signifies *Strength* or *Strong*, and from hence he declares that the Family of the *Cavanaghs* are derived; but he should have consider'd likewise that the Word *Cavan* signifies a Person of a *Mild* and *good natur'd* Disposition, and the Tribe of the *Cavanaghs* descended lineally from *Daniel Cavanagh Mac Dermond ne Ngall*, to whom this Name of Distinction was given because he had his Education in a Place call'd *Cillaovan*, in the lower Part of the Province of *Leinster*; which Tribe, according to their Surname, are derived of the same Race with the *Kinslaghs*. But that they are of an *English* Extraction is so far from being true, that they are originally *Irish*, as expressly appears by their Genealogies, and are derived from *Charles* the Great King of Ireland. It is surprizing to me how *Spencer* could advance such Falshoods, as carry with them their own Confutation. He was a Writer that was unable to make himself acquainted with the *Irish* Affairs, as being a Stranger to the Language; and besides being of a poetical Genius, he allowed himself an unbounded License in his Compositions. It was the Business of his Profession to advance poetical Fictions, and clothe them with fine insinuating Language in Order to amuse his Readers without improving them, and to recommend his Fables to the World when he design'd to conceal, or found he could not come at the Truth.

*Stainburst* is likewise justly to be censured for his Misrepresentation, in relating the Affairs of Ireland. He asserts, that the County of *Meath* was the Division that justly fell to *Slainge Mac Deala*

*Mac Leigh*, but this is fallily advanc'd, because an ancient Treatise call'd *Leabhar Gabhala*, or the Book of Conquests, observes, that the Country of *Meath*, in the Time of *Slainge*, consisted but of one Territory that lies in the Neighbourhood of *Visneagh*, and did not extend farther till the Time of *Tuathal Teachtmair*. He says likewise, that the River of *Slainge* (that passes through the Middle of the Province of *Leinster* and runs to *Wexford*) received its Name from *Slainge*, and therefore it appears to him that the Country of *Meath* was the Division he obtained from his Brethren; and for a Reason equally invalid, he declares that *Dunha Slainge* (otherwise call'd *Dion Ruogh*, situated upon the Bank of *Bearaw* between *Caharlagh* and *Laghtlin*, upon the West Side of that River) had that Name from the *Slainge* abovemention'd, whose Mansion House he asserts it was, and the Place where he died. But these Notions are the genuine Offspring of his own Brain, for he was ignorant of the Antiquities of *Ireland*; he had no Opportunities of consulting the ancient Records, and therefore he must be a Stranger to the Concerns and the Transactions of that Kingdom.

For will any Man persuade me that this Writer made a strict Search and Inquiry into the Chronicles of that Nation, when he says, that *Rossmacruin* lies in the Province of *Munster*? and so utterly unacquainted was he with the Division of the Kingdom, that he positively asserts that *Meath* was a Province, when *Cambrensis* (whose Ignorance or Malice carried him into notorious Falshoods) never gives it that Appellation, but agrees so far with the publick Chronicles, as to call it only a Division of the Country taken out of the other Provinces. This *Stainburst* with great Confidence divides the Kingdom of *Ireland* into two Parts, the one inhabited by *English*, the other possess'd by *English* and *Irish*; and with uncommon Effrontery asserts, that the meanest *Singallian* in *Ireland* would esteem it a Corruption of his Blood to marry his Daughter into the best Families among the *Irish*. The Words he uses in his Chronicle are, *Culinarum omnium ultimus qui in Angliâ Provinciâ habitat, filiam suam nobilissimo Principi Hibernorum in Matrimonium non daret: The meanest Cuillineach that lives in the English Province would not give his Daughter in Marriage to the most noble Prince among the Irish*; but where is the Fidelity of this Author, when it is evident that many Noblemen of the first Quality, who are originally of *English* Extraction, have married into *Irish*? Noble Families without any Diminution of their Honour, or Blemish to their Posterity. Among many Instances that might be offer'd, it will be sufficient to mention the Earl of *Kildare*, who married into the Family of *Mac Carty Reagh* and *O Neill*, and by that Means is related to many Gentry in the Kingdom; The Earl of *Ormond* contracted into the Family of *O Bryen* and *Mac Gully Patrick*; the Earl of *Desmond* is allied to the Tribe of *Mac Carthy More*, and the Earl of *Conacht* to the Family of *O Norke*; not to speak particularly of Viscounts, Barons and Gentlemen of *English* Descent, and as nobly extracted as any *Cuillineach* in *Fingall*, who have not disdain'd to marry among the Original *Irish*, and upon all Occasions to cultivate an Alliance with them.

But in Order the more effectually to invalidate the Testimony of *Stainburst*, that false Historian, it must be observ'd that he was the most improper to write a Chronicle of *Ireland*, because he was overrun with Prejudice, and set to work by Persons who naturally abhor'd an *Irishman*, and urg'd him on to misrepresent them at all Adventures as a worthless and ignominious People. This Author was



a Renegade from his own Country, as well as from Integrity and Truth, and with the first Air which he drew in *England* (where he received his Education) he conceived an inflexible Aversion to the *Irish*; which he discover'd upon his Return, when he undertook, without any Abilities or proper Materials, to write the History of *Ireland*. This doughty Performance he was big with for some Years, and by the help of Spleen and Ill-nature, was at last deliver'd of to the great Joy of his *English* Patrons, who bought him off from his Honesty with large Bribes, and are much more industrious to stigmatise the *Irish*, than to deliver the Memorials of their own Nation uncorrupt to Posterity. As one notorious Instance of the Hatred this Author bore to the People of *Ireland*, he remarks that the *Cuillineach's* of *Fingall* were highly to blame for not expelling the *Irish* Language out of that Part of the Country, when they drove out the Inhabitants, and forc'd them to look out for new Settlements; and the more to express his Virulency he observes, that notwithstanding the great Encomiums bestowed upon the *Irish* Language, whoever makes himself acquainted with it, will soon discover the Rudeness and Incivility of those who speak it. What can be the Design of these Reflections but to intimate that the *English*, when they got the Sovereignty of the Kingdom into their Hands, ought to have extirpated the *Irish* Race, and like *Pagan* Conquerors have rooted out the very Name and Language from off the Earth? Whatever People carry their Arms into another Country and subdue it, if they are *Christians*, are contented with the Submission of the Inhabitants, and with transplanting Colonies of their own Country to settle among the Natives: But the Practice of the *Pagans* was, after they had reduced a Country to Obedience, to extirpate the native Possessors, and compel them to look out for new Abodes in foreign Countries. Thus, according to the Barbarity of this Author, ought the *English* to have carried on their Conquests, to have shaken Hands with the Principles of Humanity and Religion, and put all the *Irish* to the Sword. A Conqueror who has any Sentiments of Christianity about him, never suppresses the Language of the Country he overcomes, and in this Manner the *English* were treated by *William of Normandy*, when he made a Conquest of that Kingdom; he permitted the People to retain their Language, by which means it is continued by the Inhabitants with some Alterations to this Day. But *Hengist* the *Saxon*, when by the Success of his Arms he became formidable in *England*, compell'd the Inhabitants to forsake the Country and transplanted People of his own in their Room; by which Means the native Language was extirpated, and the new Colonies introduced another of their own. This *Pagan* Conqueror acted consistent with the cruel Sentiments of *Stainburst*, who laments that the *Irish* Language was not banish'd the Island, which could not have been done unless the Inhabitants who used it had been expell'd, which had been an Act so barbarous and wicked, that no Politician but *Stainburst* would have suggested it, and no Conqueror unless a *Pagan* would have put it in Execution. Such therefore we perceive was the irreconcilable Hatred of this Writer to the Nation of the *Irish*, that the Principles of Humanity and Religion, and Law of Nature and Nations, are to be violated, to destroy the native *Irish*, and in the general Massacre the People and the Language are to be rooted out.

This Writer among other Reflections condemns the Judges for their Methods of administering Justice, and censures the Physicians of *Ireland* as unskilful and of the meanest Capacity in their Profession.

These



These Aspersions are unpardonable in one, who had not the least Knowledge of the *Irish* Language, and by Consequence must be a Stranger to the Method they used in their judicial Proceedings; he must be ignorant of the Laws and Customs of the Country; nor is he able to form a Judgment of the Abilities of one Profession of Men in it. This was the Case of *Stainhurst*, who neither was able to read or understand the *Irish* Tongue; and might with great Justice be compared to a blind Man, who finds fault with the Colour of a Piece of Cloth; when it is impossible he should have any Idea of Colours, or know the Difference between Black and Blue. The same improper Judge is this Writer to pronounce Sentence upon the Arts and Sciences, the Laws and Customs of the *Irish*, when he understood not a Word in the Language, could not read their Books, nor converse with the learned Professors in their own Tongue.

Equally to be exploded is the Testimony of this Writer, when he passes a Censure upon the Musicians of *Ireland*, and contemns them as ignorant of that divine Art, and Strangers to that Harmony which belongs to it. With what Face could *Stainhurst* assert this Falshood, who had no Notion of Musick, of Harmony, or Distinction of Sounds, and had no Capacity to judge of the Notes and Excellency of that Art. But Malice and Prejudice have betray'd him into Ignorance to all impartial Judges; for it is well known to all who have convers'd in the least with the ancient Chronicles of *Ireland*, that no People in the World had a better Taste of Musick, and took more Delight, or employ'd more of their Time in the Pleasures of it. Their Laws, their Systems of Physick, and other Sciences, were poetical Compositions, and set to Musick, which was always esteem'd the most polite Part of Learning among them: This Author therefore is rash and ignorant in his Censures, when he traduces the *Irish* as a rude and unharmonious Nation, when their Genius peculiarly inclined them to Musick, in which they became excellent Proficients, and improved the Art to a wonderful Advantage. I admire that he had not upon this Occasion consulted *Giraldus Cambrensis*, who gives a different Character of the *Irish*, and particularly applauds them for their Accomplishments in Musick. In the nineteenth Chapter of his History he has this Expression: *In musicis solum Instrumentis commendabilem invenio Gentis istius Diligentiam, in quibus præ omni Natione quam vidimus incomparabiliter est instructa*; I find the commendable Diligence of that Nation to be particularly employ'd in musical Instruments, with which they are incomparably furnish'd, above any other Nation that I have seen. But *Stainhurst* overlooks whatever tends to raise the Character of the *Irish*, and throws Scandal and Invektive in an abundant manner; and even in his Spleen exceeds the Falshoods of *Cambrensis* himself, who had more Modesty than to oppose Truth so notoriously evident, as that the *Irish* are naturally Lovers of Musick, and have a polite Taste of that Art. The same Author bestows a great Encomium upon the *Irish* Musick in the same Chapter: *Tam suavi Velocitate, tam dispari Paritate, tam discordi Concordia, consona redditur & complectur Melodia*: The Melody is completed and render'd agreeable by so sweet a Swiftness, by so unequal a Parity of Sound, by so disagreeing a Concord. From these Citations, taken from a Writer who renounc'd all Partiality in Favour of the *Irish*, it appears that what *Stainhurst* advances concerning the *Irish* Musick, is the Effect of his Malice, and of the same Certainty with the Character which he gives of the Musicians of *Ireland*, whom he calls a Set of blind Harpers; whereas if he had inquired at the time when he wrote his romantrick History, he would have found, that

that for one Musician that was blind, there were twenty who had their perfect Sight; and could see clearly into the Malice of his rotten Heart, when he undertook to vilify and traduce the *Irish*, and represent them in the blackest Colours to Posterity.

It ought to be observ'd in this Place, that *Stainburst* was for three unanswerable Reasons utterly unqualified to write a Chronicle; and therefore he had no Right to the Title of an Historian, nor ought by Men of Learning to be esteem'd as such. In the first Place he was so young when he undertook this Work, that his Years would not allow him to read and examine the ancient Chronicles of the Kingdom; or to arrive at the least Knowledge of the Genealogies or the People whose History he propos'd to write. Secondly, if his Years would have permitted him to peruse the publick Records of the Kingdom, he had not the least Acquaintance with the *Irish* Language, in which all the memorable Transactions, and the Pedigrees of the Inhabitants were originally written. And thirdly, he had renounc'd that Impartiality which is effectually necessary to an Historian; for being a Person of an ambitious Nature, and solicitous of Applause, those who urg'd him on to engage in this Design courted him with large Gifts and Promises of Advancement, upon Condition he would blacken the *Irish* Nation; so that his Integrity was corrupted by Bribes, and therefore he was disabled, unless he would betray his Trust and disappoint his Patrons, to write the Truth, and be just in his Representations; it is certain that *Stainburst* was faithful to those who employ'd him, and the History which he drew up fully answer'd their Expectations; but he lived to repent of the Injustice he had been guilty of, and when afterwards he enter'd into holy Orders, he promis'd by a formal Recantation publicly to revoke all the Falshoods he had recorded in that Work; and for that Purpose (as I am credibly inform'd) a Writing was drawn up in Order to be printed in Ireland and laid before the whole World; but, if it was ever publish'd, I could never find a Copy of it, and therefore am apt to believe that it was by some Means or other utterly suppress'd. If this Recantation had seen the Light, among infinite Mistakes that would have been corrected, his History I am persuaded would have been purg'd of this ignorant Blunder, where he says that the *Irish*, when they are fighting, cry out *Pharo, Pharo, Pharo*, which Word, with great Stupidity, he imagines is derived from *Pharaoh* King of *Egypt*; whereas the Word is the same with *Faire, Faire*, which in the *English* signifies *watch, watch*, and imports as much as is intended by the *French*, who cry out *Garda, Garda*, when they apprehend their Friend, whom they value, is in imminent Danger.

Doctor *Hammer* likewise, in his Chronicle, has been guilty of great Mistakes; He asserts that one *Bartholinus* was the Commander of the *Milesians* when they first came into Ireland; *Partholanus* is the Name he means in this Place, and it is evident by the *Irish* Chronicles, that there was more than the Distance of seven hundred Years between the coming of *Partholanus* and the landing of the *Milesians* in Ireland. *Partholanus* discover'd the Coasts three hundred Years after *Noah's* Flood, and it was a thousand and eighty Years after the Flood when the Sons of *Milesius* set Foot upon the *Irish* Shore: And as the great *Camden* justly observes, more Regard is to be paid to the old Records of the Kingdom, than to the Testimony of *Hammer*, whose Authority is far from being infallible. *Deur sua Antiquitate Venia*, was the saying of that learned Antiquary, whose Opinion it was that the Antiquities of Ireland are much more valuable, and of

more

more Authority than those of any other Nation in the World: When he speaks of *Ireland* in his *Britannia* he has this Expression; *Non immerito hæc Insula Ogygia perantiqua a Plutarcho dicta fuit*; This Island was not without Reason call'd the ancient Ogygia by *Plutarch*; and the Reason he gives is, *a profundissima enim Antiquitatis Memoria Historias suas auspicantur, adeo ut pro illis, omnis omnium Gentium Antiquitas sit Novitas*; for they begin their Histories from the most profound Memory of Antiquity, so that the Antiquity of all other Nations, in respect of them, is mere Novelty. From whence, it may be concluded reasonably, that the publick Chronicles of *Ireland* are of uncontested Authority, and sufficient to overthrow the Testimony of *Hammer*, or any modern Writer, whatsoever.

There are some Writers, who assert expressly, that *Froto*, the King of *Denmark* was King of *Ireland*, at the Time when *Christ* was born; and among the rest *Hammer* gives into this Opinion; but this Assertion has no Foundation, for the ancient Records of the Kingdom observe that *Criomthan Niadhnar* was the Monarch of the Island at the Birth of *Christ*; and *Hammer*, who was an *Englishman*, and never saw nor understood the Chronicles of *Ireland*, could never know what particular Prince had the Sovereignty of the Island at that Time; and no Wonder, when it was out of his Power to discover, who was the King of *Britain* at so great a Distance of Time as the Birth of *Christ*; *Daniel*, *Gildas*, *Rider*, and many other Authors, who have attempted to write the History of *Britain*, confess that they can come at no Certainty concerning the Transactions of that Kingdom before the Arrival of the *Saxons* and *Normans*; which gave Occasion to the learned *Camden* to observe, that he could not absolutely determine so much as from whence the Country of *Britain* received its Name, and therefore is contented to give us his Conjecture among other Writers: from hence I infer, that if *Hammer* and other *English* Historians found it impossible to discover, who reigned in the Kingdom of *Britain* at the Distance of so many Ages as the Birth of *Christ*, it is Presumption and Ignorance in him to assume a Right of asserting positively that *Froto* the King of *Denmark* was the Monarch of *Ireland*, when our Saviour first appear'd in the World: It was impossible for him to arrive at any Knowledge of the *Irish* Affairs, and therefore what he says is no more than Conjecture, and his Authority of no Account.

Nor is this Writer to be less censured, for declaring, that *St. Patrick* had no Right to be call'd the *Irish* Apostle; that he was not the first who planted the Christian Faith in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, neither was he the first who discover'd *St. Patrick's Cave* in the Island of Purgatory. These Actions he ignorantly ascribes to another *Patrick*, an Abbot, who lived in the Year of *Christ* eight hundred and fifty. But there is no Foundation in Truth for this Assertion; and to prove this, the Words of *St. Caesarius*, who lived six hundred Years after the Birth of *Christ*, and a hundred and fifty before *Patrick* the Abbot was born, are of great Consequence: This Author, in the thirty eighth Chapter of his Book, entitled, *Liber Dialogorum*, has this Expression: *Qui de Purgatorio dubitat, Scotiam pergat, & amplius de parvis Purgatorii non dubitabit*; Whoever doubts of Purgatory, let him go to *Scotland*, and he will no longer question the Pains of Purgatory. From hence it appears evidently, that *St. Patrick's Cave*, in the Island of Purgatory, could not be originally discover'd by the Abbot abovemention'd, but by *St. Patrick*, who is justly call'd the Apostle of the *Irish*; for to say otherwise would be to confess that *Patrick* the Ab-

not found this Cave two hundred and fifty Years before he was born; since it is evident, that *Cæsius* speaks expressly of *Patrick's* Purgatory two hundred and fifty Years before that Abbot lived; and consequently that Cave received its Name from *St. Patrick* the Apostle of the *Irish*. Besides the ancient Records and Traditions of the Kings, dom agree unanimously, that *St. Patrick* originally found out the Cave in the Island of Purgatory, which is Authority of Weight sufficient to over-rule the Opinion of *Hammer*, who from his Aversion to the *Irish* advanc'd this Falshood, and that the *Irish* might have the least Title to Favour in that Cave.

Another Observation of equal Credit is made by this Author in his twenty fourth Page, where he declares, that *Fionn Mac Cumhaill* was originally of *British* Extraction: In this Assertion he is opposed by the ancient Records of *Ireland*, which pronounce him of *Irish* Descent; that he came from *Nuadha Neacht* King of *Leinster*, who sprung from the royal Line of *Heremon*, Son of *Milesius* King of *Spain*. With the same Falshood he asserts that the *Irish* Authors make Mention of one *Giolla Marra* that was King of *Ireland*, who, he says, was Son to the King of *Thumond*. I shall content my self with what has been already said with regard to this Fiction, and take no further Notice of it, since it carries its own Confutation. The Account he gives in his Chronicles of the Battel of *Fionn Tragha*, I suppose was design'd to ridicule the Authority of the *Irish* Records; and to persuade the World that their Testimony ought to be esteem'd of no Weight, since it is evident to the meanest Capacity, that the Battel of *Fionn Tragha*, tho' it be related in some of the Chronicles of *Ireland*, yet is no more than a poetical Fiction, design'd to entertain and divert the Reader, and not related as a Matter of Fact; which Answer is sufficient to destroy the Credit of what he writes of some other Transactions which he has recorded, particularly what he speaks of *Fianna Eirionn*, &c.

Among other notorious Falshoods of this Author, he asserts that *Slainge* the Son of *Dela*, the Son of *Loich*, was King of *Ireland* thirty Years; but this is contradicted by our authentick Chronicles, which determine, that one Year was the whole Extent of his Reign. Nor is he to be believed, when he declares that the Archbishop of *Canterbury* exercised a Jurisdiction over the Clergy of *Ireland* from the Time of *Augustine* the Monk, since the Chronicles of *Ireland* observe expressly, that the Archbishop of *Canterbury* never claim'd any Authority over the *Irish* Clergy till the Reign of *William* the Conqueror; and even then he did not pretend to a Power that extended farther than the Clergy of *Dublin*, *Wexford*, *Waterford*, and *Cork*, who descended originally from the *Danes*, and were called *Normans*, from their Affection to the People of *Normandy*, and put themselves under the Jurisdiction of the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, out of an inflexible Aversion to the *Irish*, and to introduce a foreign Power among them. Besides, there is good Authority to believe that that Part of the Clergy acknowledg'd no Subjection to the See of *Canterbury*, but during the Government of three Archbishops, *Rodolph*, *Lanfranc*, and *Anselm*: So that what *Hammer* advances in this Place, that the *Irish* Clergy were under the Archbishopal See of *Canterbury*, from the Time of *Augustine* the Monk, is a Falshood as ignorant as malicious, and deserves no Credit.

Nor is he to be believ'd, when he writes that *Morough* the Son of *Coghlan*, was King of *Ireland* in the Year of our Redemption one thousand and sixty; for it is evident beyond Denial, that *Roderick O Connor* was the Monarch of the Island at that Time, which was four



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Years before the *English* landed upon the Coasts. He asserts, likewise, that *Comhghall*, the Abbot of *Beannachuir* was born in *Great Britain*, which is intirely a Fiction of his own; for it appears in the Account of his Life, that he was born at a Place in the Province of *Ulster*, call'd *Dail na Ruighé*, and that he descended from the Family of the *Dail na Ruighé* in that Country; but this Writer had a Design in making this Abbot of *British* Extraction, which must be detected; for it must be observ'd that the pious *Comhghall* was the Founder of the Abby of *Beannachuir* in the Province of *Ulster*, which was the Mother of all the Monasteries in *Europe*. The same religious Person rais'd a Monastery in *Wales* near *West Chester*, call'd *Banger*; so that if this doughty Historian could persuade the World that *Comhghall* was of a *British* Descent, whatever Foundations he laid, and Structures he erected, would contribute to the Glory of the *English* Nation, and the *Irish* would be rob'd of the Honour of them. The same inveterate Enemy of the *Irish* asserts farther, that *Farsa Faplan*, and *Ullan*, were illegitimate Children of the King of *Leinster*; but this is a malicious Per- version of Fact, for the Chronicles of *Ireland* speak expressly, that they were the Sons of *Aodb Beannain* King of *Munster*. Were I to enumerate all the Errors arising either from Malice or Ignorance which *Hammer* has committed in his Chronicle, I should enlarge this Preface to an improper Length, and weary the Patience of the Reader, who by these Instances may judge of the Capacity of this Author, and his Qualifications for an Historian, and therefore I shall cease to pursue him any farther.

*John Barclay*, speaking of the Country of *Ireland*, has these Words; *Fragiles Damos ad altitudinem hominis excitant sibi & Pecoribus commu- nes; they build slight Houses of the Height of a Man, which are in common for themselves and their Cattle*. But this Writer imitates the sordid Disposition of the Beetle, who stoops to Excrements for his Diet, and neglects the fragrant Flowers, and a more delicate Nourish- ment. In like Manner *Barclay* describes the mean and contemptible Abodes of the lowest of People, and passes over in Silence the stately Palaces and magnificent Structures erected from Time to Time by the Nobility and Gentry of *Ireland*, equal to, if not surpassing, in Grandeur and Expence, the most costly and splendid Fabricks of the neigh- bouring Nations. This Partiality is sufficient to overthrow the Testi- mony of this Author among learned Judges, and to invalidate his Evi- dence, when he attempts to derive a Scandal and Reproach upon the State and Magnificence of the ancient *Irish*.

*Morison* has given himself wonderful Diversion, and fancies he delight- fully entertains his Reader, by writing in a ludicrous Manner of the Customs and Manners of the *Irish*; but notwithstanding his Fluency of Style in the *English* Language, his Pen contradicted his Knowledge, and he was sensible, that under a humorous Way of Expression he disguised the Truth, and impos'd Fables in the Room of it. Such a Writer is not worthy of the Name of an Historian, who attempts to give an Account of the Inhabitants of any Country, and yet con- ceals whatever is praise-worthy and honourable relating to them, and with the most abusive Partiality records only what gives them a mean and despicable Character, and tends to reproach and lessen them in the Eyes of Posterity. This Author had conceived the utmost Prejudice and a most cordial Detestation of the *Irish*, and was urg'd on to write by profess'd Enemies to the Glory of that Nation; and therefore it is not to be wonder'd that he describes them as a base and contemptible People. It were an easy Matter, were it consistent with the Rules of

true



true History, to rake among the Dregs of any Nation, and enlarge upon the Rudeness and Incivilities of their Manners; but this is not the Business of an Historian, who sinks beneath his proper Character when he stoops to such low Arts; and prostitutes his Pen upon so insignificant a Subject. Take a Survey of the obdurate and unruly Temper of the common People in *Scotland*, the ungovernable Disposition of the *English* Populace, the proud and insolent Peasants in *France*, and the lordly Mechanicks in *Flanders*, the Vanity and Pride of a poor *Spaniard*, and Boorishness of the *Germans*; go into *Italy*, and inquire into the most learned and polite Parts of *Europe*, and it would swell Volumes to describe the rude Manners and Customs of the meaner Sort, tho' it is below the Dignity of an Historian to take Notice of them, since it discovers the Malice and Partiality of the Writer, and tends rather to corrupt than to improve Mankind. Whoever attempts to treat in general of the Manners of a Country, and describes only the Disposition of the uncivilized Populace, without giving an Account of the Nobility and Gentry, ought not to retain the Name of an Historian, but of a Libeller and Pamphleteer, who conceals the Truth to oblige the Party that employ him, which was the Case of *Morison*, *Campion*, and some others. Nor is the learned *Camden* free from the Imputation of Partiality, when he speaks of the Inhabitants of *Ireland*. He asserts, that it is a Custom in that Country that the Priests with their Wives and Children have their Dwelling in the Churches consecrated to divine Use, where they feast and riot and play upon Musick, by which Means those holy Places are desecrated and used to profane Purposes. In Answer to this Charge it must be observ'd, that this irreligious Custom was introduced after the Reformation by *Henry* the eighth King of *England*, nor has it been practised for many Ages but in the most uncivilized Part of the Kingdom, and by a sort of Clergy, who pretend to be exempt from the Authority of Ecclesiastical Superiors, and plac'd beyond the Reach of Church Discipline. *Giraldus Cambrensis* has given a satisfactory Account of the Piety and Devotion of the *Irish* Clergy, and sufficiently refutes this Falshood of *Camden*. The Expression he makes use of is this, *Si qui Religioni se consecrant, religiosâ quadam Austeritate se continent, vigilando, orando, & jejuniis se macerando*; if any dedicate themselves to Religion, they govern themselves with a religious Austerity in watching and praying and mortifying themselves by Fasting. And the same Author, in his twenty seventh Chapter, speaking particularly of the *Irish* Clergy, gives them this Character, *Est autem Clerus satis Religione Commendabilis, & inter varias quibus præluceat Virtutes, Castitas prærogativa præminet*; The Clergy are sufficiently commendable for their Religion, and among other Virtues that are perspicuous in them, their Chastity is most eminently distinguish'd. From whence the Partiality of *Camden* appears, by charging the whole Body of the *Irish* Clergy with that indecent and profane Custom. *Stainhurst*, who was never partial in favour of the *Irish*, has this Expression in his History of *Ireland*, written in the Year one thousand five hundred and eighty four: *Hibernici etiam Magnâ ex parte sunt Religionis summè colentes; The People of Ireland for the most Part are of a very religious Disposition*; so that this Practice could not be justly charg'd upon the Clergy of *Ireland*, but upon such of them, who denied the Authority of their Superiors, and indulged themselves in many rude and unjustifiable Actions without Controul or Restraint.

This *English* Antiquary asserts farther, that the People of *Ireland* made no Account of Matrimony, except such as lived in Cities and in the civilized Part of the Kingdom. This is an Accusation not only false

and invidious, and highly reflecting upon the Nobility and Gentry, who are Natives of the Island, but upon the *English*, who have settled and obtained Possessions in the Country. I confess indeed, that some of the meanest Sort are of a wild and untractable Nature, and like the Population in all Parts of the World, are ungovernable in their Appetites, and not to be restrained by any Laws, either Civil or Ecclesiastical. It is an unpardonable Instance of Partiality therefore in *Camden*, to condemn the whole Body of the *Irish* Nobility and Gentry, who live in the Country remote from Towns and Cities, as if they followed wildly the Rules of Lust without any Respect to Matrimonial Contracts; since it is evident that a few only of the baser Sort are guilty of this abominable Practice, and indulge themselves in such bestial Liberties. It is Barbarity for a whole Nation to be aspers'd for the Guilt of a few, and those the very Dregs of the People. I pay a great Respect in other Cases to the Memory of *Camden*, and confess the Value of his Writings, but I cannot acquit him of Prejudice in laying this savage Custom to the whole Nation of *Ireland*, who are, generally speaking, a polite and virtuous People, and just to their Matrimonial Engagements, and deserve not to suffer for the sake of a few, who, like the Vulgar in all Countries, allow themselves unchristian Freedoms, and fly in the Face of the Laws which attempt to correct them. With regard to what is charg'd upon the *Irish* by other Writers, that they very religiously observe their Matrimonial Contracts for the Space of a Year, and then think they may lawfully dissolve them, it is sufficient to reply, that this Opinion prevailed only among the rude and unpolish'd Part of the People, who despised the Discipline of the Church, and denied the Authority of their Ecclesiastical Superiors.

*Campion*, in the sixth Chapter of the first Book of his History, with great Injustice remarks upon the *Irish*, that they are so weak in their Judgments as to believe implicitly whatever is declared to them by their spiritual Guides, whom they obey without Reserve, and who have it in their Power to impose upon and lead them which way they please; and to support this Charge he relates a fabulous Story to this Effect. There was, says he, a very covetous Prelate in *Ireland*, who had the Art to impose upon his People, and make them believe whatever he pleased, however monstrous or incredible. This Bishop upon a Time, wanted a Sum of Money, and in Order to obtain it from his Congregation, he tells them, that some Years ago St. *Patrick* and St. *Peter*, had a very violent Contest about an Irish *Golloglach* that St. *Patrick* design'd to introduce into Heaven: But St. *Peter* opposed him, and in his Passion struck St. *Patrick* with his Key, and broke his Head; So that he desired their Contribution; by which Means the People were prevail'd upon to part with their Money, and the Bishop obtained his Purpose. This is the Story related by *Campion*, who like an Actor upon the Stage imposes upon the World with Fictions that could not possibly have any Foundation in Nature; for can it be supposed that a Christian of the meanest Capacity would believe that St. *Patrick*, who died above a thousand Years ago, and St. *Peter* should quarrel and come to Blows, and that St. *Patrick* should have his Head broke by St. *Peter's* Key; as if the Key had been made of Iron, which every Body knows to be nothing Material, but implies only a Power of binding and loosing? Besides, this fabulous Writer, to shew his Accomplishments, confesses in his Epistle prefix'd that he spent but ten Weeks in compiling his History of *Ireland*, which is sufficient to convince impartial Judges of the Merits of his Performance, and how im-

possible

possible it was in so short a time to provide Matter for the Work; or if the Materials were ready to his Hand, to dispose them into Method and Form, and to judge of the Truth of Facts, which in his Hurry he wrote at all Adventures, and insolently calls his Book *The History of Ireland*.

There was an *English Priest*, whose Name was *Good*, that taught a School in *Limerick* in the Year of Christ one thousand five hundred sixty six, and upon the strictest Survey and Enquiry gives this Account of the People of *Ireland*. *Gens hæc corpore valida, & imprimis agilis, animo fortis, & clara, ingenio acris & bellicosa, Vita prodiga, Laboris & Frigoris, & Inedie patiens, Veneri indulgens, Hospitibus per benigna, Amore constans, Inimico implacabilis, Credulitate levis, Contumelia & Injuria impatiens*: They are a People robust and of great Agility of Body, of a stout and magnanimous Disposition, of a sharp and warlike Genius, prodigal of Life, patient of Labour, of Cold and Hunger, of an amorous Inclination, exceeding kind and hospitable to Strangers, constant in their Love implacable to their Enemies, easy to believe, impatient of Reproach and Injury. And *Stainhurst* gives them the following Character: *In Laboribus ex omni hominum genere patientissimi, in rebus angustiis raro fracti*: In Labours the most patient of Mankind, and seldom despairing under the greatest Difficulties.

One *John Davis*, an *English Author*, takes upon him to censure the Laws and Usages of *Ireland*, particularly he remarks how unjust the Customs are, that the Brother of a deceased Person should succeed in the Inheritance of the Estate before the Son; that the Estate of a Family should be divided equally among the Brothers, and that the Law will accept of a Satisfaction in Money and Cattel from the Murderer when a Person is killed. In Answer to the Complaint of this Writer, it must be observ'd, that the Laws and Customs of Countries generally differ, and are variable in their own Nature, as the Exigency of Affairs requires; and likewise that these three Customs were not originally admitted into the Body of the *Irish Laws*, but were introduced when the Natives fell into civil Dissentions among themselves in every Part of the Kingdom, so that they were killing and plundering one another with the utmost Cruelty without Mercy or Distinction, for which Reason the Nobility and Gentry of the Island, who were best acquainted with the *Irish Laws* and Constitutions, consider'd wisely what fatal Consequences might follow, and with great Prudence thought fit to establish the three Customs abovemention'd; first, they thought proper that the Estate should descend to the Brother, in Order that every Family might be supplied with an able and experienc'd Commander to defend them and lead them into the Field: for if the Son were to succeed in the Command of his deceased Father, it must sometimes unavoidably happen that he will be an Infant, or of too raw Years to defend the Family from the Attempts of their Enemies. Secondly, the Custom of dividing Estates among the Brothers could not well be avoided in *Ireland*, for otherwise the Rent of every Country would be insufficient to pay the Number of Soldiers that was necessary for its Defence; but when the Lands were divided, the Brother who had the least Lor, would be as able to defend his Country as the Chiefstain himself: And thirdly, it was necessary that Money or Cattel should be admitted as Satisfaction for a Person kill'd, because if the Murderer could find Means to escape into the next Country, he avoided the Hands of Justice, and it was impossible to punish him; and therefore the Law ordain'd, that the Friends of the Deceased should receive Satisfaction from the Relations of the Murderer, which was a Sum of Money, or a Number of Cattel,



Cattel; for it would have been Injustice, in the Relations, who were not accessory to the Fact, should answer it with their Lives; if the Principle was not to be found; so that it was not candid in *Davis* to reflect upon the *Irish* Laws for those Customs; the two former of which the *Irish* Constitution could not possibly subsist without, and they were absolutely necessary to the Support of the publick Peace; the last, I am inform'd, is now practis'd in *England*; and therefore *Davis* might have look'd at home; and first have reformed the Laws of his own Country, before he attempted to censure and reflect upon the inoffensive Customs of the *Irish*.

The learned *Camden*, while he writes of *Ireland*, has this Expression: *Habent enim hi Magnates suos. Jundivos quos Brebones vocant; suos Historicos qui res gestas describunt; Medicos, Poetas, quos Bardos vocant & Citharistas; & certa & singula Famulæ, scilicet, Breboni unus Stripis & Nominis; Historici alterius, & sic de cæteris; quæ suis Liberos seu Cognatos in sua qualibet arte erudiunt, & semper Successores habent quibus singulis sua Prædia assignata sunt.* These Noblemen have their Lawyers, whom they call Brebons; their Historians, who describe their Exploits; their Physicians; their Poets; whom they call Bards; and Musicians; and all of a certain and several Family; that is, the Brebons were of one Tribe and Name, the Historians of another, and so of the rest; who instruct their Children and Relations in their several Arts and Professions, and they are always their Successors; to whom they leave the Estates and Revenues assign'd them. From this Testimony of *Camden*, it appears, that the *Irish* instituted a proper Method to improve and preserve the liberal Arts and Sciences; for they appointed a suitable Maintenance and Provision for every Person, who excell'd in the Art which he particularly profess'd; and the Artist so distinguish'd had Authority and Jurisdiction over the several Members of the same Art or Profession, and was principally esteem'd, and more honourably provided for by the Patron that retained him. So that these Salaries and Revenues being settled upon the learned Professors, occasion'd an Emulation, and provok'd the Industry of all the Youth in the Kingdom; who, encourag'd by the Rewards annex'd, endeavour'd with the utmost Application to arrive at a Perfection in their several Studies; and this Establishment among the *Irish* preserv'd the State of Learning and Art in a flourishing Condition, insomuch that the neighbouring Nations were supplied with Professors from thence, who instructed the Youth, and propagated their Knowledge over the greatest Part of the Western World. And the Nobility and Gentry of *Ireland* did not only confer a handsome Maintenance and Support upon their learned Professors; but it was establish'd by the Laws, that the Lands and Patrimonies belonging to them should be esteem'd sacred, and not be violated, and they were allowed as a Refuge and Asylum to all who fled thither for Sanctuary. So that when many fierce Wars fell out between the *English* and *Irish*, the Learned and their Scholars were exempt from Plunder and military Executions, and never felt the Calamities of War.

Whoever reads the sixth Chapter of the sixth Book of the Commentaries of *Julius Cæsar*, will find that their Sages and Men of Learning, who went from other Parts of *Europe* to teach in *France*, were indulg'd the same Privileges, which perhaps were originally copied from the Practice of the *Irish*. This Introduction would be too tedious and prolix, should I particularly reflect upon all the malicious and ignorant Falshoods related by *English* Writers, in what they call their Histories of *Ireland*; for most of them are so monstrous and incredible, that they

carry

carry with them their own Confutation; and it ought farther to be consider'd, that whatever these Writers deliver in Dispraise of the *Irish* Nation, has no other Authority than the bare Relation of Persons, who bore an inflexible Hatred to the *Irish* Name; and were ignorant of the Transactions of that Kingdom, by Reason of their Unskillfulness in the Language, and by Consequence must unavoidably be mistaken, and impose Falshoods upon the World.

*Camden*, who bears the principal Character among these Historians, has very blind Information to support what he observes of the Affairs of *Ireland*. He has not taken the least Notice of the Conquest of the *Tuatha de Dananns*, who held the Sovereignty of the Island one hundred and ninety seven Years; and erroneously fixes the first Invasion of *Ireland* to be that of *Cesar*, which the publick Chronicles of the Kingdom never mention

under the Name of a *Conquest*, tho' they give a particular Account of it: So that the Design of this *English* Antiquary could be no less than to throw a Blemish upon the *Irish*, both ancient and modern. Besides, it must be observ'd, that this Writer had but a very short Time to search into the Chronicles of *Ireland*; he continued in the Country but the Space of a Year and a half, and then return'd to *England*: His History, when he left *Ireland*, was so far from being finish'd, that a Year would not serve to complete it, and he was oblig'd to leave it to the Care of his Companion, whose Name was *Bertram Verdon*, who was as unacquainted with the genuine Chronicles of *Ireland* as himself. Upon the whole, it is left to all impartial Judges to consider, whether I have unjustly censur'd *Cambrensis*, and the *English* Authors, who followed his Steps, and copied his Falshoods, and to pronounce impartially, whether my History does not stand upon a better Foot of Credit than any Relation of theirs, which they received only by Tradition, and recorded upon that Authority only. And it cannot be improper upon this Occasion to observe, that, with regard to my self, I am a Person of an advanced Age, and have acquir'd a more valuable Experience, by understanding the publick Chronicles and ancient Authors in their original Language, than they (being of other Countries, of minor Years, and not having Time to digest, or Capacity to understand the ancient Records) could possibly arrive at. It is not from a Principle of Love or Aversion, nor that I am moved by the Importunity of Friends, or the strong Influence of Rewards, that I undertook to write the following History of *Ireland*, but was urg'd on by reflecting, that so noble a Country as the Kingdom of *Ireland*, and so worthy and generous a People who possess'd it, ought not to be abused by fabulous Relations, or have their Memories buried in Oblivion, without being transmitted, and the Antiquity and Names of the Inhabitants recorded with Honour to Posterity: And I humbly conceive that my History should the rather take Place, because I trace the Antiquity of the *Irish* much higher, and with better Authority, than other Writers, and give a particular Account of the most ancient *Irish*, the *Gadelians*: And if any one should suppose that I bestow too large Encomiums upon that brave and illustrious Tribe, or speak with Partiality of their Exploits, let it be consider'd that I have no Temptation to be unjust, being my self originally of an *English* Extraction.

I have observ'd that every modern Historian, who has undertaken to write of *Ireland*, commends the Country, but despises the People, which so far rais'd my Resentment and Indignation, that I set out in this untrodden Path, and resolv'd to vindicate so brave a People from such scandalous Abuses, by searching into original Records, and from thence compiling a true and impartial History. It grieved me to see a Nation hunted down by Ignorance and Malice, and recorded as the Scum and Refuse of

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Mankind, when upon a strict Inquiry they have made as good a Figure, and have signalised themselves in as commendable a manner to Posterity as any People in *Europe*. The Valour and unshaken Bravery of the old *Irish*, and particularly their fixed Constancy in the Christian Religion, and the Chatholick Faith, ought to be honourably mention'd, as a proper Standard and Example for Ages that follow. I have no Occasion to speak particularly of the Number of *Saints* and holy Persons, that this Island has produced, exceeding in Proportion any Country in *Europe*: All Histories allow that *Ireland* was the establish'd Seat of Learning, that annually afforded Numbers of Professors that were sent to cultivate and improve the neighbouring Nations of *France, Italy, Germany, Flanders, England* and *Scotland*; as appears abundantly from the Preface before the Book, that treats of the Lives of *St. Patrick, Columba, and Bridget* that is written in *English*.

If it be objected, that the Chronicles of *Ireland* are liable to Suspicion, and may be justly question'd; let it be observ'd in Reply, that no People in the World took more Care to preserve the Authority of their publick Records, and to deliver them uncorrupt to Posterity. The Chronicles of the Kingdom were solemnly purg'd and examin'd every three Years in the royal House of *Tara*, in the Presence of the Nobility and Clergy, and in a full Assembly of the most learned and eminent Antiquaries in the Country: And to prove this, the under-named Books of the first Note that are to be seen at this Day, are indisputable Authorities: The Book of *Ardmach*, the Psalter of *Cashel*, written by the Holy *Cormac Mac Cuilleinan* King of *Munster* and Archbishop of *Cashel*; the Book entitled *Leabhar na Huachhungabhala*; the Book call'd *Leabhar Chluana Hianach*; *Psalter na Ram*, *Leabhar Glindaloch*, *Leabhar Nagceart*, written by *St. Beningus*, *Vigbir Chiarain*, written in *Cluain Mac Naois*, *Leabhar Buidhe*, or the *Yellow Book of Moling*, the *Black Book of Molaige*, and *Fionntan a Laoghis*. The particular Titles and Contents of many ancient Books are as follow: *Leabhar Gabhala* signified the Book of *Conquests*, *Leabhar na Geigeadh* the Book of *Provincialists*, *Reim Riogradh*, otherwise call'd the *Roll of the Kings*, the *Book of Ages*, the Book call'd *Leabhar Combsiorgachta*, or, an *Account of the People who lived in the same Age*, the Book of *Antiquity*, the Book call'd *Corannab*, or of *Etymologies*, the Book call'd *Uracept*, that was written by the learned *Cionn Faola*, the Book call'd the *Visions of Columba*, written by *Dallan Forguill* soon after the Death of that Saint; *An Account why the Woods, the Hills, the Rivers and Lakes in the Kingdom were distinguished by the Names they bear, the Pedigrees of Women*, and many others. The Treatises that are to be seen at this Day in the *Irish* Language, contain particular Relations of all memorable Battels and Transactions that happen'd in *Ireland* from the first Account of Time, and give an Account of the Genealogies of the principal Families in the Island; and the Authority of these publick Records cannot be question'd, when it is consider'd that there were above two hundred Chroniclers and Antiquaries, whose Business was to preserve and record all Actions and Affairs of Consequence relating to the Publick; they had Revenues and Salaries settled upon them for their Maintenance, and to support the Dignity of their Character, their Annals and Histories were submitted to the Examination and Censure of the Nobility, Clergy and Gentry, who were most eminent for Learning, and assembled for that very Purpose; which is Evidence sufficient to evince their Authority, and to procure them, upon the Account of what has been mentioned, a superior Esteem to the Antiquities of any other Nation, except the *Jewish*, throughout the World.

Nor are we to omit in this Place to observe, that the Chronicles of Ireland receive an additional Value from this Consideration, that they were never suppress'd by the Tyranny and Invasion of any foreign Power; for tho' the *Danes* occasion'd great Troubles in the Kingdom of Ireland for many Ages, yet the Number of these publick Registers, whose Office was to enter upon Record the Affairs of the Kingdom, were so many; that the *Danes* could not possibly destroy them all, tho' it must be confess'd that some of the Chronicles of those Times did actually perish. No other Country in Europe, that I know of, can boast justly of the same Advantage; for tho' the *Romans*, the *Gauls*, the *Goths*, *Saxons*, *Saracens*, *Moors*, and *Danes*, generally were careful to suppress the publick Records in their respective Incurfions, yet it was impossible that the Antiquities of Ireland should be involv'd in the same Fate, because the Copies of them were lodg'd in so many Hands, and there were so many Antiquaries to take Care of them. And this *Cambrensis*, in his forty sixth Chapter, sufficiently confirms; his Words are, *Hibernia ab initio ab omni alinarum Gentium incurfu libera permansit*. Ireland, from the beginning, was free from the Incurfions of other Nations; by which is intended that Ireland was never so far under the Yoke of any foreign Power, as to confess itself conquer'd, or that the publick Antiquities of the Kingdom were suppress'd, which is a Privilege that no other Nation in Europe can justly pretend to.

I have taken the Liberty, in the following History, upon good Grounds, to change the Number of Years that are applied to the Reigns of some of the Pagan *Irish* Kings, and have varied from the Account I have met with in some of the Annals of the Kingdom; and the Reason is, because I cannot reconcile the Time allotted them, to any Chronology since the Creation to the Birth of *Christ*. Besides, there must be Mistakes which no true History can consist with, particularly with regard to the Reign of *Siorna Saoglach*, who, if we are directed by the ancient Annals of the Kings, reign'd Monarch of the Island two hundred and fifty Years. The Chronicles assert that *Siorna*, when he began to reign, was fifty Years old; so that if I had relied wholly upon the Authority of the old Records this King would have lived three hundred Years, which is utterly incredible; for this Reason I thought it proper to allow him a Reign of one and twenty Years, which I collected from an old Verse that expressly declares his Reign to be of no longer a Date. *Cobhthach Caolbreac* is said in the ancient Records to be King of Ireland fifty Years, yet it is impossible reasonably to allow him any more than thirty; for it must be consider'd that *Moriat* the Daughter of *Scoriat* King of *Concadnibhne*, fell in Love with *Maoime*, otherwise call'd *Labhra Loingseach*, a Youth, and a Stranger that was entertain'd in her Father's House; She was at that Time very young, and after she was married she bore him many Children; so that if the Length of fifty Years was properly the Reign of *Cobhthach*, it would follow that *Moriat* was sixty Years of Age when she bore those Children to *Labhra Loingseach*, which is scarce possible to suppose; for which Reason the Reign of *Cobhthach* must be shorten'd and reduced to the Space of thirty Years. For other Reasons of equal Force with these mention'd, I have chang'd the Date of the Reign of some other Kings in the Times of Paganism, but I may venture to acquit the publick Antiquaries and original Chronicles from being blamed for these Mistakes; they certainly are with greater Justice to be imputed to the Ignorance of some Transcribers, who copied their Works, and were incapable to mend those Defects.

It must be lamented that the *Irish*, since the *English* got Possession of the Kingdom, have omitted the ancient and laudable Custom of purging and examining into their Chronicles; and the Reason seems to be because the publick Antiquaries and Historians desist from their Employments,

their



their Privileges being destroy'd, and their Estates seized and alineated, so that there was no Encouragement for Men of Learning to pursue their Studies, or a competent Maintenance to support them. The Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom withdrew their Contributions, and there arose so many violent Quarrels and Disputes among the *Irish* and *English*, that the Kingdom was often in Confusion, and so embroil'd, that the Antiquaries had neither Encouragement nor Protection to carry on the Business of their Profession.

It will not seem strange that the Chronology in the following History may in some Cases be imperfect and defective, if it be observ'd that Disagreement there is among Authors in their Computation of Time from *Adam* to the Birth of *Christ*; insomuch that the most learned Chronologers in the World have differ'd in their Accounts, as will abundantly appear by taking a Survey of some of the most distinguish'd in that Study, who are as follow.

Amongst the Hebrews.	YEARS.	Amongst the Greek Authors.	Amongst the Latins.		
<i>Paul Sedecholin counts</i>	3518	<i>Metrodorus</i>	5000	<i>St. Hierom</i>	3941
<i>The Talmundistes</i>	3784	<i>Eusebius</i>	5199	<i>St. Augustin</i>	5351
<i>The new Rabbins</i>	3760	<i>Theophilus</i>	5476	<i>Isidorus</i>	5270
<i>Rabbi Naasson</i>	3740			<i>Orosius</i>	5190
<i>Rabbi Moses Germidif</i>	4580			<i>Beda</i>	3952
<i>Josephus</i>	4192			<i>Alphonfus</i>	5984

These are the Authors of principal Note for Chronological Computations, and it is easie to observe the notorious Variations there are in their several Accounts; so that it is not to be wonder'd at, if the *Irish* Chronicles differ in that Point; yet were I to decide this Controversy, I think it would be the most plausible Standard to allow four thousand and fifty two Years between *Adam* and the Birth of *Christ*. My Design therefore is to follow the Computation that comes nearest to the Account I have mentioned with Regard to the Reign of the *Irish* Monarchs, petty Princes, and Chieftains of the Island, and the publick Concerns and Transactions of the Kingdom.

If it should seem surprising that the following History is diversified with so many Quotations out of ancient Poetry, to prove several Matters of Fact advanc'd, but to adjust the Chronology of the *Irish* History, it must be consider'd, particularly that the Authors of the *Irish* Chronicles compos'd their Work generally in Verse, that their Records might be the less subject to Corruption and Change, that the Obscurity of the Style might be a Defence to them, and that the Youths, who were instructed in that Profession, might be the better able to commit them to Memory. The *Irish* Compositions in Verse or *Dann*, that were of principal Note, were call'd in the *Irish* Language *Psalter na Teambrach*, which was always preserv'd in the Custody of the chief Antiquaries of the Kings of *Ireland*; the *Psalter Casbel* was written by *Cormac Mac Cuilleanan*; and as the Word *Psalm* in *English*, and *Duain* or *Dan* in the *Irish*, are of the same Signification; so a *Psalter* (in Latin *Psalterium*) is a Book that contains many particular Poems; and since most of the authentick Records of *Ireland* are compos'd in *Dann*, or in *Verse*, I shall receive them as the principal Testimonies to follow in compiling the following History: For notwithstanding that some of the Chronicles of *Ireland* differ from these poetical Records in some Cases, yet the Testimony of the Annals that were written in Verse is not for that Reason invalid, because all the publick Chronicles, as well in Verse as in Prose, were submitted to a solemn Correction and Purgation,

Purgation, and therefore it is reasonable they should be esteem'd of equal Authority.

I have often heard it pronounced impossible that the Genealogy of any Person could be lineally traced so high as *Adam*, but this seeming Difficulty will vanish, by observing that it was easy for the *Irish* to keep exact Pedigrees from the Time of *Gadela*. The *Irish* were furnish'd with a learned Body of Men call'd *Druids* or *Soothsayers*, whose peculiar Office it was to take a strict Account of the several Genealogies, and to record the most memorable Transactions that happen'd in the Kingdom: It will appear by the Course of this History that these *Priests* or *Druids* were sufficiently accomplish'd for this Business, particularly that *Niul* the Father of *Gadela* obtained all his Riches and Honour upon the Account of his Learning and exquisite Art, from whom were derived not only the Streams of Learning and Knowledge, but a sufficient Skill to adjust the Pedigrees of Families, and to transmit them uncorrupt to after Ages.

I shall instance in this Place an Example taken from a *Welsh* Author, whose Name was *Asherus*, where he gives the Pedigree of one of the Kings of *Britain*, and traces it as high as *Adam*, which I mention as an Evidence of the Possibility of the Thing, and to take off the Wonder how the *Irish* could be Masters of such an Art, or depend upon the Certainty of it.

*Elfred* the Son of  
*Neutrolf*  
*Egbert*  
*Eibalmund*  
*Ewan*  
*Indild*  
*Corenred*  
*Ceulavald*  
*Chatwin*  
*Elianlem*  
*Cinriffe*

*Creda*  
*Cerdy*  
*Ellisa*  
*John*  
*Brond*  
*Verdon*  
*Frealde*  
*Frealfe*  
*Fradawoulfe*  
*Cread*  
*Cruturaz*

*Beam*  
*Seldouin*  
*Heuonor*  
*Heremon*  
*Hatra*  
*Himula*  
*Berdatrius*  
*Japhet*  
*Noah.*

Upon the whole, I am perswaded, that whoever consults this History with Candor, and with such Proportion of Allowance as seems due to the obscure and unfrequented Track I have pursued, may find Satisfaction; and if he will farther give himself the Trouble of searching into the ancient Chronicles of *Ireland*, he will be convinc'd that I have been just and faithful in the Use I have made of them; but if it should so unfortunately happen that my Labours should be despis'd, and the following History be esteem'd of no Value, I must confess, that it exceeded my Abilities to give another Account, for I did my best. I take my leave therefore, and ask Pardon of the Reader, if I have in any Case led him out of his Way; assuring him that his Mistake was not the Effect of Malice in me, but because I wanted Skill to direct him better.



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# A T A B L E OF THE K I N G S OF I R E L A N D,

The Year they began their Reign, and the  
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# The General HISTORY of I R E L A N D,

From the first INHABITING thereof, Collected  
from the most ANCIENT AUTHORS,

By the Learned Dr. *KEATING*.

Translated by *DERMITIUS O' CONNOR*, one  
of the Antiquaries of that Kingdom.

I. **T**HE First Name of IRELAND, which we meet with, was *Inis na bhfiadhbuidhe*, which signifies a Woody Isle, and was so called by a Messenger that was sent thither by *Nion* the Son of *Pelus*, to discover this Isle; and finding it all cover'd with Wood, except the Plains of *Moynelalta*, gave it that Name. This Plain was so call'd from the Number of Fowl, which usually came there to bask themselves in the Sun. It is now call'd *Clountarffe*, where *Brian Boiroimbe*, a Monarch of Ireland, with his *Irisb* Army, gave the last total Defeat to the *Danes*. This Monarch with one of his Sons and Grandsons, had the hard Fate to be slain. The *Irisb* notwithstanding gain'd a most signal Victory, and by it, freed themselves from the continual Troubles and Incurfions of the *Danish* Forces, as shall be hereafter mention'd.

II. IRELAND was also call'd *Crioch na bhfuineadbach*, which is as much as to say, the Neighbouring Country, as it stood in the Neighbourhood of one of the Three Parts of the World that was then Inhabited.

III. ITS Third Name was *Inis Alga*, i. e. the Noble Island, and this Name they enjoy'd in the Time of the *Firbolgs*, an ancient Colony of People, who were settled here before the *Scythians* or



*Gadeliens*; of whom in the pursuit of this History we shall take particular Notice.

IV. THE next Name appropriated to this Island, was *Eire* i. e. *Ireland*, and so called from the Word *Aeria*, a Name by which formerly *Crete*, now *Candia*, was called. *Aegypt*, from whence the *Gadeliens* came, was call'd by that Name; and the same Author is of Opinion, that the Isle of *Crete* was call'd *Aeria*, because the *Gadeliens* remain'd there, after the Time when *SRU* the Son of *EASRU*, with all the *Gadeliens*, were banish'd out of *Aegypt*. Most of the ancient Authors however, are of Opinion, that it took the Name of *Eire*, from a Queen of the *Tuatha de Damians* (a Colony so call'd from their great Skill in Necromancy, of whom some were so famous, as to be stiled Gods) whose Name was *Eire*, and the Wife of *Mac Greine* who was King of this Isle, when the Sons of *Milefius* first invaded it.

V. *FODHLA* was the Fifth Name it receiv'd from another Queen of the same Colony, so call'd, who was the Wife of *Mac Ceacht*.

VI. IT was after this call'd *Banba*, from the Name of a third Queen of the same Colony, who was Wife to *Mac Coill*. These three Queens were three Sisters, and marry'd to three Brothers, amongst whom there was an Agreement, that each Brother should Alternately take his Year of Government, and that during the Year of his Reign, the Isle should be call'd after the Name of his Queen. And if you find it more frequently call'd *Eire*, than *Fodhla* or *Banba*, it was, by Reason, that the Husband to Queen *Eire*, from whom the Isle was call'd *Ireland*, happen'd to be King at the Time it was conquer'd by the Sons of *Milefius*.

VII. From the Colony of the *Tuatha de Damians* before mention'd, it receiv'd after this, the Name of *Inis Fail*, from a Stone that was brought by them to *Ireland*, call'd *Lia Fail*, and by some the Fatal Stone. *Hector Boetius* in his History of *Scotland*, calls it *Saxum fatale*. This was esteem'd an enchanted Stone, and in great Veneration for its admirable Virtues, which was to make a terrible Noise, resembling Thunder, and to be heard at a great Distance, when any of the Royal Race of the *Scythians* should Seat themselves upon this Stone to be Crown'd, as it was then the Custom, upon the Decease of the former King; but were not the Person elected, of the Royal Blood of *Scythia*, not the least Emotion, or Noise, proceeded from the Stone. But all Idols and diabolical Charms lost their Force and Virtue upon the Birth of our Saviour, and such was the Fate of this Stone.

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ALL the Monarchs of *Ireland* upon their Succession, were Crown'd on this Stone, untill *Fergus* Son of *Earca* (the first King of *Scotland* of the *Scythian* Race) sent to his Brother *Mortough*, then King of *Ireland*, to desire that he would please to send him that Stone to *Scotland*, that he might be Crown'd thereon, King of that Nation; believing, that the Crown would be more firmly fix'd to him and his Posterity, by the innate Virtue there was in that Extraordinary Stone. The King of *Ireland* comply'd with his Request, and about the Year of *Christ*, 513, *Fergus* upon it receiv'd the Crown of *Scotland*. This Stone was kept with great Care at the Abby of *Scone* in *Scotland*, and it was customary for the Kings of that Country, to be Crown'd thereon, until King *Edward* the first of *England*, had it brought from *Scotland*; and it is now plac'd under the Coronation Chair in *Westminster* Abby, of which we shall speak more fully hereafter, as well as of the Prophecy which attended it.

VIII. THE Sons of *Milesius* were designing to Land on this Island, when appearing in sight of *Wexford*, the foremention'd *Tuatha de Damnans* assembled together, and by their Magical Enchantments, made the Isle appear no bigger than a Hog's Back, whereupon they gave it the Name *Muichnis*, that is, the Hogs Isle.

IX. ITS Ninth Appellation it receiv'd likewise from the Sons of *Milesius*, who nam'd it *Scotia*, from their Mothers Name *Scota*, who was the Daughter of *Pharaoh Neftomibus*, King of *Aegypt*, or perhaps from themselves, they being Originally of the *Scythian* Race.

X. IT was also by these Sons of *Milesius* call'd *Hibernia*, some say from a River in *Spain*, call'd *Iberus*, but as others conjecture, from *Heber* the Son of *Milesius*, tho' the Holy *Charles Mac Cuillen-an* is of Opinion, that it was so call'd from the Greek Word *Hiber*, which may signifie *Insula Occidentalis*, or the Western Island.

XI. *Ptolomeus* calls this Isle *Fuernia*, *Solinus* names it *Fuerna*. *Claudian* stiles it *Ferna*, and *Eustatius*, *Verna*. And it is the general Opinion that these Authors not perfectly understanding the derivation of the Word, varied it according to the particular Sense of each.

XII. *DIODORUS SICULUS*, suppos'd to aim only as the others did, at the signification of the Word, gave it the twelfth Name, *Irin*.

XIII. IT

XIII. IT was likewise call'd *Fom no Feavon IR*, i. e. *Irlandia* or the Land of *IR*, from *IR*, who was the first of *Mileſius's* Sons that was buried in that Isle, from whence the Island receiv'd that Name; *Irlandia* ſignifying in the *Iriſh* Language, the Land of *Ir*. And that thus it obtain'd this Name, we have Reaſon to believe, becauſe it is particularly mention'd in the Book of *Armagh*, that this Island was call'd *Ireo*, which is as much as to ſay, the Grave of *IR*.

XIV. *Plutarch* calls it *Ogygia*, which ſignifies in Latin *Inſula perantiqua*, i. e. the moſt ancient Isle; which is a very ſuitable Name to *Ireland*; it plainly appearing from the Ancient Annals of that Kingdom, preſerv'd by the Antiquaries, and impartially tranſmitted by them to Poſterity, that ſeveral Ages have paſt, ſince it was firſt Inhabited, which ſhall be more fully explain'd in the Courſe of this Hiſtory.

### The Firſt DIVISION of IRELAND.

**P**ARTHOLANUS originally a *Scythian*, came from Greece, and firſt Invaded this Island about Three Hundred Years after the Deluge. He ſoon divided the Country into four Parts; allotting an equal Share to each of his four Sons. To *ER* he gave all the Land from *Oileach Neid*, in the North of *Ulſter* to *Dublin* in *Leinſter*. From thence to a Part in *Munſter*, call'd the Island of *Barrimore*, he aſſign'd to his Son *ORUA*. From thence to *Athcliath Mearuidhe* near *Gallway*, he beſtow'd on his Son *FEARON*; from that Place backwards to the before mention'd *Oileach Neid* he gave to the Poſſeſſion of his fourth Son *FEARGNA*.

### The Second DIVISION of IRELAND.

**B**EOTHACH, SIMON, and BRITAN, the Sons of NEMEDUS, being the three chief Commanders, divided *Ireland* into three Parts, which they ſhared amongſt them. All the Land from *Toirinis* in the North of *Conacht*, to the River *Boyne* in *Leinſter*, was given to the Poſſeſſion of *BEOTHACH*. To *SIMON's* Share fell all from thence to the meeting of the three Streams near *Cork* in *Munſter*, and *BRITAN* enjoy'd all the remainder, round to the foremention'd *Toirinis* in *Conacht*,

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## The Third DIVISION of IRELAND.

**T**HIS Country was divided into five Parts, by the five Sons of *DELA*, (the Son of *LOICH* nam'd *FIRBOLGS*) which at this Time are called the five Provinces of Ireland. *Cambrensis* confirms this, in the Account he gives of this Country, in these Words, *in quatuor enim portiones fere Equales antiquitus hæc Regio divisa fuit; Videlicet in Momoniam duplicem, Borealem & Australem, Lageniam Ultoniam, & Conaciam*; into five almost equal Parts, says he, *this Country was anciently divided; viz.* The two Provinces of *Munster*, (Desmond Southward, and *Thimond* toward the North) *Leinster*, *Ulster*, and *Connacht*: The five Commanders of the *Firbolgs*, who governed those five Provinces; were, *Slainge*, *Seangann*, *Gann*, *Geanann*, and *Rughbraidhe*; *Slainge* possessed the Province of *Leinster*, from *Drocheda* to a Place called *Comarna dtri nuisgeadh*, which signifies the meeting of the three Streams: *Gann* presided over the Province of *Eachach Abhradbruadh*, which began at the meeting of the three Streams, and extended to *Bealach Conglais*; *Seangann* govern'd the Province of *Connigh Daire*, from *Bealach Conglais* to *Limerick*; *Geanann* had for his Share the Province of *Connacht*, from *Limerick* to *Drobhaois*, and *Rughbraidhe* for his, the Province of *Ulster* from *Drobhaois* to *Drocheda* aforesaid.

Some Historians perhaps may imagine, That *Ireland* was divided into three equal Parts, between the three Sons of *Cearmody Milbheoil* of the *Tuatha de Dananns*, but this can hardly be suppos'd, because we have grounds to believe, that these Princes govern'd alternately, and Reign'd annually in their Turns over the whole Island. And this appears from the Reasons that are given above, why *Ireland* was more frequently called by the Name of *Eire*, than of *Fodhla* or *Banba*.

## The Fourth DIVISION of IRELAND, by the Sons of Milefius, King of Spain.

**I**Am sensible that some Antiquaries are of Opinion, That *Ireland* was divided between *Eabhear-Fionn*, and *Ereanibon*, called *Herimon*, in this manner. The whole Country from *Dublin* and *Galway* Southward, to *Eabhear-Fionn*, or *Heberus Fionn*, and the rest that lay Northward to *Ereanibon* and *Eisger Reada*, was agreed to be the Boundary between the Two Kingdoms: But it is certain, that *Ireland* was never thus divided; for the two Provinces of *Munster*, at that Time called *Deisiol Eirionn*, that is, the South of *Ireland*, were given to *Eabhear-Fionn*; the Province of *Connacht* and

*Leinster*, to *Eremon*, and the Province of *Ulster* to *Eabhear* the Son of *Ir*, their Brother's Son. The *Spanish* Nobility and Military Forces that came over in this Expedition, were likewise divided between these Three Princes, who severally receiv'd them as Subjects, and took them as the Supports and Ornaments of their New Kingdoms.

*The Fifth DIVISION of IRELAND, by  
Cearma and Sobhairce.*

THESE two Princes were of the Posterity of *Ir*, and divided the Island between them; *Sobhairce* possess'd all the Country from *Drogheda* to *Limerick* Northward, and *Cearma* had for his Share, the whole Territory Southward. Each of them built a Royal Palace in his own Kingdom, and called it by his own Name, the Northern Seat was called *Dun Sobhairce*, and the Southern, *Dun Mac Patrick*. which is in *Curcies* Country to this Day.

*The Sixth DIVISION by Ugaine the Great.*

UGAINE Who was called the *Great*, divided *Ireland* into five and Twenty Parts, and share allotted to each of his five and Twenty Children, as we shall have occasion to mention more particularly in the Progress of this History.

*The Seventh DIVISION of IRELAND, between Conn, called of the Hundred Battles, and Eogan Mor, that is, Eugenius the Great.*

CONN and *Eogan Mor*, who had the Title likewise of *Mogha Nuagatt*, or the strong Labourer, divided the Island equally between them; all the Country Northwards, from *Dublin* and *Galway*, belong'd to *Conn*, and from thence Southward, to *Eogan Mor* and *Esger Reada* was the Limits of their several Kingdoms; and from this Division, the North Part of the Country was called *Leath Conn*, that is, *Conn's Share*, and the South *Leath Mogha*, that is, the Share of *Mogha*, by which Distinctions those two Parts of the Kingdom are known by those Name to this Time.

The Seven Divisions of the Island which I have mention'd, are related faithfully, in a Chronological Order, from the Ancient Annals of the Kingdom, where the Revolutions that happen'd in the

the Government are Recorded; I shall now look back to the Division of the Country since the time of the *Firbolgs*, and their first Arrival in *Ireland*, because the Island to this very Day is divided into the same five Provinces, which are still call'd by the same Names. There was a Stone erected at *Visneach* in *Meath*, as the Center where the several Provinces met, which remain'd till *Tuatbal Teachtmbar* ascended the *Irish* <sup>lede na</sup> Throne, and cut off a Part from each Province, where he <sup>ceoi geb an</sup> built a royal Palace for the Monarchs of the Island, and ap- <sup>ro.</sup> pointed this Territory as a Support and Revenue to the House of *Tarah*. This Tract of the Country is now called the County of *Meath*, and *West-Meath*, as will appear hereafter, when I come to the History of *Tuatbal's* Reign.

### The Particular DIVISIONS of MEATH.

**B**EFORE I treat of the *Irish* Provinces, I shall first describe the particular Divisions of *Meath*, because it <sup>eo sonbe na</sup> was the royal Seat of the Kings of *Ireland*, and a Standing <sup>ribe anyo.</sup> Revenue for the Support of the House of *Tarah*; a Territory, as the Records of the Kingdom inform us, exempt from all Taxes, Laws, and Contributions, and Independent of all the Monarchs and Princes of the Island, as will be observ'd hereafter in its proper Place. *Meath* from *East* to *West* contain'd eighteen Tracts of Land, thirty Towns in each Tract, twelve Plough-Lands in every Town, sixty Acres in every Plough-Land; so that every Tract contain'd three hundred and sixty Plough-Lands, which in the whole, by that Computation, makes up six thousand four hundred and eighty Plough-Lands in all *Meath*. There are two Reasons to be given, why this Part of the Island was call'd *Meath*; the first, because the parcel of Land that was separated from every Province by *Tuatbal Teachtmbar* to make up this Tract, was call'd in *Irish*, *Meidhe gach Coigeadh*, that is, the *Neck* of each Province; for the Word *Meidhe* signifies a Neck; from whence it came afterwards, by Corruption, to be call'd *Meath*, tho' among the ancient *Irish*, it still retains its proper Name of *Conde na Meidhe*. Others derive the Name from *Midhe*, a Son of *Bratha*, Son of *Deaghaba*, who was the principal *Druid* or *High Priest* to the royal Family of *Ne-* <sup>breoi eland</sup> *imbh*, or *Nemidius*. This *Druid* was the first that <sup>neimis anyo.</sup> kindled a Fire in the Island after the Arrival of these Foreigners, who for this signal Service, rewarded him with a Tract of Land near *Visneach*, the Place where the



the Fire was first kindled; which Tract, from the Name of the *Druid*, was call'd *Midbe*. The whole Extent of *Meath* was no more at first than this small Territory; till the Munificence of *Tuathall Teachtmhar* enlarg'd its Bounds.

*The Boundaries of MEATH, as they were improv'd by Tuathall Teachtmhar.*

THE River *Shannon* it is observ'd runs West of *Dublin*, to the River *Abhain Righe*, and so Westward to *Cluanconrach*, to the *French Mills Foard*, to *Cumar Cluana Hiaraird*, to *Tochar Carbre*, to *Cranaigh Geisille*, to *Druim Cuillin*, to *Biorra*, to *Abhain Carra* Northwards, and so to *Loch Ribh*; all the Islands upon the *Shannon* as far as *Lochbodearg*, belongs to *Meath*, and from thence to *Abhlone*, to *Sgarbh Vachtarach*, to *Cumar*, to *Lin Cluana Heodhais*, to *Loch da Ean*, to *Magh Cnogbha*, to *Duibhir*, *Atba an Doill* on the Mountain *Sliabh Fuaid*, from thence to *Magh an Chosnambaidh*, in a Place call'd *Cill Isleibhe*, so to *Snamb Eagnachair*, to *Cumar*, and to the River *Liffey*; as an old Bard thus elegantly describes it.

*From Loch bo Deirgh to Biorra from thence to the Sea Side,  
To Cumar Cluana Hioraird, and to Cumar Cluana Hoirde;*

*The Poets celebrate in lasting Verse*

*The thirteen Tracts in Meath; Fair Breagmhuigh*

*Has five well known in the Records of Fame.*

*O fertile Meath, and most delightful Breag*

*Your Praise for ever shall adorn my Song;*

*Whose fat'ning Soil along the Shannon's Side*

*Extends, till in the Ocean's rugged Waves*

*Her Streams are lost; Northward the Tract of Meath*

*Reaches to Teabhtha, for Heroes famed,*

*And so to Carbry, mark'd for Men of War,*

*And thence to Casan Breag, a Place renown'd*

*For noble Blood and Troops that never fled,*

*And Men of Learning faithful to the Truth,*

*Meath* was afterwards divided by *Aodha Oirndighe* Monarch of Ireland, between the two Sons of *Dinnis* the Son of *Daniel*; who had been King of the Island before him: Their Names were *Connor* and *Olioll*; he gave the West of *Meath* to one of them, and the East, wherein was the royal Seat of *Tarab*, to the other.

neopantaf  
na tibe an-  
yo.

bo noinn a-  
odd oimhni-  
ge an mibe.

# I R E L A N D.

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## An Account of the DIVISIONS of CONACHT.

THE Province of *Conacht* from *Limerick* to *Droghaia* contain'd nine hundred Towns or Vilages; and thirty Territories, thirty Towns in each Territory, twelve Plough-Lands in every Town, and a hundred and twenty Acres in every Plough-Land, so that <sup>do b'ndoi</sup> <sup>do t'ua'ca</sup> there are a Thousand and Eighty Plough-Lands in the whole Province. <sup>deabannan</sup> It received it's Name, as some suppose from a Tryal of Necromancy; between *Cithmeallach* and *Comm*, two Druids of the *Tuatha de Dananns*; The Prize fell to *Comm*, who by his Magical Skill covered the whole Country of *Conacht* with Snow, *Comm-fneachta* signifying the Snow of *Comm*; from thence it obtain'd <sup>do e'ldin</sup> <sup>cu'ii ceab</sup> the Name of *Conacht*. <sup>ca'ta an'fo.</sup> Others derive the Word from *Comm iachta*, that is the Children of *Comm* (*iocht* signifying Children) because *Eochaidh Moighmheadhoim* and his Posterity who were Descendants from Prince *Comm*, Inhabited that part of the Island, which may be a Reason why the Country was called *Conacht*. The Province of *Conacht* was afterwards divided by *Eochaidh Feidlioch* between three Petty Princes from *Fidbeach* to *Limerick*, to *Fidbeach* the Son of *Feig*, from *Galway* to *Dubh*, to *Droghaia* he settled upon *Eochaidh Alath*, jorrus *Dombnan*, from *Galway* to *Limerick* upon *Timne* the Son of *Commrach*, he bestowed *Magh Gaimibh* and the old Lands of *Taoidean* from *Fidbeach* to *Teambair Bhrotha niadh*; and *Cruchain*, was the Royal Seat of the Three Princes.

## The DIVISIONS of ULSTER.

THE Province of *Ulster* from *Droghaia* to *Inbher Colpa*, contains Thirty six Territories, nine hundred Towns or Vilages, and twelve Thousand nine Hundred and Sixty Plough-Lands are in the whole Province. It was called *Uladh*, that is *Ulster*, from the Word *Ollsaith*, which implies Land abounding with plenty of <sup>ionan ol'ca</sup> <sup>it' mo'p</sup> <sup>ionmar</sup> Fish of all kinds, the other Necessaries of Life; for the Word *Oll* signifies Great, and *Saith* signifies Wealth, as the Poet long ago observ'd in the following Verses.

Ceadaoín doluigh Judaís tar ord; ar Lorg Deamhain Diodhuil gharg  
Ceadaoín do ghabh Saith um Shaith Ceadoin do bhraith Jofa ard  
Wen'sday the Traytor Judas for his Guide  
Made choice of Satan and the Fiends below;  
when blinded with desire of Wealth that Day  
He basely sold his Master.

D

Or

Or perhaps the Province received its Name from *Ollamh Fodhla*; which the Poet intimates in these Verses.

Ollamh Fodhla Feochair Ghioll naidh do hai mníniagh Uíladh  
Jar bhirfeas Teámhrach na dtreabh as leis ar dtuis do hoiricadh.

*From Ollamh Fodhla, Ulster had its Name*

*A Wise and Valiant Prince who first assembled*

*The Royal Parliament of Tara.*

There were two Royal Seats in the Province of *Ulster Eamhain Mbacha* and *Oileach Neidh*.

## The Divisions of LEINSTER.

THE Province of *Leinster* from *Inbher Colpa* now called *Drogheda* to the Meeting of the three Streams in the Bounds of *Munster*, consists of Thirty one Territories, which contain nine Hundred and Thirty Towns or Villages, and Eleven Thousand seven Hundred and Sixty Plough-Lands: The Province received its Name from *Laighin*, that is the *Long Spears* which were the Weapons the *Gauls* made use of when they Invaded the Island under *Labhra Long seach* when first they came on Shore in this part of the Kingdom, which afterwards was called *Laighin* that is a *Spear*. These Foreigners slew in *Dimrich Cobhthach Caolmbreac* Monarch of *Ireland* with one of these Weapons, which gave occasion to these Lines of the Poet.

baib gail  
caimh le  
labhras loim-  
Birr

Da chead ar fhithid Cead Gall go Laignibh leathna leo anall

Ona Laignibh Sin gan oil diobh Rohainmnigheadh Laigion

*From the Broad Spears of the Invading Gauls*

*The Province had its Name.*

The Royal Seats that were in *Leinster* where the Kings of the Country kept their Court, were *Dimrich* and the *Naas*.

## Of the PROVINCE of EOCHAI DH ABHRADHRUADH.

THE Province of *Eochaidh Abhradhruadh* reaching from *Cork* to *Limerick* Eastward, and so to the Meeting of the three Streams, contains Thirty five Territories, in which are twelve Thousand six Hundred Plough-Lands. It is called East *Munster*, and the two Royal Seats where the Kings of the Province kept their Court were *Dungcrott* and *Dimjag*.

baib gail  
caimh le  
labhras loim-  
Birr

of

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## Of the PROVINCE of CONRIGH MAC- DAIRI.

THIS Province extending from *Bealach Conglais* by <sup>coirgeas</sup> the Counties of *Cork* and *Limerick*, to the West of *Ire-* <sup>conrig mac</sup> *land*, contain'd Thirty five Territories, in which were a Thousand <sup>de anno</sup> and Fifty Towns or Villages, and there were twelve Thousand six Hundred Plough-Lands in all the West of *Munster*; The two Palaces where the Princes of the Province gave Audience, were *Dungclaive* and *Dunochairmhaghe*. The two Divisions of *Munster* were Govern'd by two Families that Descended from *Dairine* and *Deirgthene*, till the Reign of *Oilioll Olum*, who was of the Posterity of *Deirgthene*. This Prince after he had Banished *Macon*, who was of the Line of *Dairine*, out of the Island, Assumed the Government of both Provinces, and settled the Succession upon two of his own Issue under this Restriction, that the Posterity of his two Sons *Eogan Mor* and *Cormac Cas* should succeed Alternately, that is the Eldest of these Princes was to Reign during his Life, but upon his Demise his Son was not to inherit but his Brother if alive, or the next Heir of his Family, and then the Crown was to return again, and this Limitation was observ'd for many Ages without any Dispute or Quarrel between the two Houses. The four Royal Seats that I have mention'd, was the Places where the Kings of *Munster* resided till the Time of *Corc* Son of *Luidhdheach* who Govern'd that Province, and in his Reign it was that *Cashel* was first discovered after this Manner. The Place which is now called *Carraick Patrick* where the Royal Palace of *Cashel* was built, was Originally cover'd with Woods, and called *Siothdhuirum* being wholly Desert and Uninhabited, and used only as a Pasture for Beasts. It so fell out that two Herdsmen *Siolarn* and *Durdre* the one belonging to the King of *Ely*, the other to the King of *Muscrie Tire* which we call <sup>R: 052 Mure-</sup> *Ormond*, drove their Herds into the Wood to Feed, and when <sup>pois time</sup> they had continued there for some Time, upon a certain Eve- <sup>agor R: 5</sup> ning they discover'd a most Beautiful Person, who advancing toward them began to Sing with a soft and Melodious Voice, and then walking solemnly about, he *Consecrated* as it were that Spot of Land wherein the Palace of *Cashel* was built; and Propheying aloud of the Coming of *St. Patrick*, soon after which he vanished. The Herdsmen surpris'd at so unusual a Sight, when they came to their Homes, related what they had seen; till at length the Histo- <sup>Cone mas</sup> ry reached the Court of *Corc* Son of *Luidhdheach* King of *Munster*. <sup>luisgeas</sup> This Prince from a Sense of Religion repaired immediately to *Siothdhu*

*Siobdhuim*, afterwards called *Casbel*, and built there a most Stately Palace and called it *Lios na Laochruidhe*, which he made the Seat of his Residence; he received the Taxes and Revenues of his Kingdom upon *Carriac Patrick*, that is *Patrick's Rock*, but then called *Caisoil* or *Cios oil*, for *Cias*, signifies Rent, and *oil* in *Irish* is a Rock or Stone; and therefore the King of *Munster* receiving his Rents and Taxes upon the Stone, by joining the Words *Cais* and *oil*, this Royal Palace came afterwards to be called *Casbel*.

ed. 1701 on  
broad col-  
bit

### The Particular DIVISIONS of the Province of MUNSTER.

WHEN *Oilioll olum* governed the two Provinces of *Munster*, he divided them into five Parts, called in general the Province of *Munster*. *Thumond* which is the first Part, extends in length from *Leim Congculoin* to *Slighe dhala* called *bealach Mor* in *Offery*, the Breadth of it is from *Sliabh Eachtighe* to *Sliabh Eibh Imne*. All the Country from *Sliabh Eachtighe* to *Limerick* belong'd Originally to the Province of *Conacht*, till *Luighuidh*, *Meam* who Descended from *Cormac Cas* made a Conquest of it by his Sword, and added it to the Province of *Munster*. This Tract was called *Garbh Fhearon Lubgeadh* that is the Lands of *Luigheadh*. This Country to *Dailgeais* was exempt from all Tributes and Taxes, and paid no Revenue to any of the Kings of *Ireland*. The Second Division called *Urbumbha*, that is *Ormond*, extends in Length from *Gabbram* to *Cnamchoill* near *Tipperary*, and its Breadth is from a Place called *Bearnan Eile* to *Oilean Vibhric*. The Third Part called *Meadhon Mummhoim* or middle *Munster*, reaches in Length from *Cnamchoill* to *Luachair dheaghadh*. The Fourth Part is distinguished by the Name of *Farmhumbom*, that is, West *Munster*, and its Length is from *Luachair dheaghadh* Westwards to the Main Ocean, and its Breadth from *Glenrourchy* to the *Shannon*. The Last Division called *Ceasinhumbain*, or South *Munster*, extends in Length from *Sliabh Caoim* Southwards to the Sea. The two Provinces of *Munster* are called in the *Irish* Language *da Coigeadh Mumban* from the Word *Mumbo*, which signifies *Great* or of large *Extent*, because they include a greater Tract of Land than any other Province in the whole Island; for tho' I have mentioned that the Province of *Ulster* contain'd Thirty six Territories, yet it consisted but of Thirty three, till the Kingdom was divided into Provinces; Then it was that *Carbre Niadhnar*, King of *Leinster*, bestow'd all the Country from *Loch an Choigeadh* to the Sea, upon *Connor*, the King of *Ulster* and contrary to the Practice of latter Ages, added it to his

cu3 contab3  
n10g ulas  
en1 enubas  
ceab do 201-  
geab la-  
geano n10s  
lagcan do  
leigian ne  
hulao



his Province, as a Reward for obtaining his Daughter in Marriage, as will be observ'd more Particular in the Course of this History.

IN the whole Kingdom of *Ireland* were a Hundred and Eighty five Territories, or Tracts of Land, containig five Thouland five Hundred and Fifty Towns, in which were Sixty six Thou-  
 sand and six Hundred Plough-Lands, according to the Land Measure of the Ancient *Irisb*, which was much larger than what was observ'd in *England*, for one Acre in *Ireland* would make two or three Acres of the *Englisb*, as they are now Computed.

### *An Account of the Archbishopricks and Bishopricks in I R E L A N D.*

T H E R E are four Archbishopricks in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, the Archbishop of *Ardmach* Primate of the whole Kingdom, the Archbishop of *Dublin*, the Archbishop of *Casbel*, and the Archbishop of *Tuam*. Under the Primate is the Bishop of *Meath* called by *Cambden* the Bishop of *Aolna Mirion*, from a large Stone that stands in *Visneach* by the Name of *Aolna Mirion*; This Stone was the Boundary of the five Provinces of *Ireland* before a Part was taken from each Province to Form the Country of *Meath*; and because it was Erected as a Land-Mark to distinguish the Limits of each Province, it was called *Aolna Mirion*, for the Word *Mir* or *Mirion* signifies in the *Irisb* Language a *Share* or *Part* of a Thing, and *Aol* signifies a Stone; It was Stiled likewise *Clock na Gcoigeadh*, or the Provincial Stone, because it was a fixed Center at the Meeting of the five Provinces. Under the Jurisdiction of the Primate, are also the Bishop of *Dunda Leithghilas*, the Bishop of *Clocher* or *Louth*, the Bishop of *Rathboth* or *Rapho*, the Bishop of *Rathbuck*, the Bishop of *Dailniachair*, and the Bishop of *Derry*.

T H E Archbishop of *Dublin* has under him the Bishop of *Gleamdaloch*, the Bishop of *Fearns* o *Fearna*, the Bishop of *Offery*, the Bishop of *Leithghim*, and the Bishop of *Kildare*.

T H E following Bishops are under the Government of the Archbishop of *Casbel*, the Bishop of *Killaloe*, the Bishop of *Limerick*, the Bishop of *Iniscatha*, the Bishop of *Kilsenore*, the Bishop of *Emly*, the Bishop of *Roscre*, the Bishop of *Waterford*, the Bishop of *Lismore*, the Bishop of *Cloim* or *Cluam uam aigh*, the Bishop of *Cork*, the Bishop of *Rosscarbry*, and the Bishop of *Ardfeart*.

T H E Jurisdiction of the Archbishop of *Tuam*, extends over the Bishop of *Kill Mac Duach*, the Bishop of *Maigheo* or *Mayo*,

the Bishop of *Anaochdum*, the Bishop of *Cill iarthair*, the Bishop of *Roscomon*, the Bishop of *Cluainfeart*, the Bishop of *Achoury*, the Bishop of *Cillaluidh*, the Bishop of *Conaine*, the Bishop of *Cill Mac Duacht*, the Bishop *Cill monuach* and the Bishop of *Eglin*. These Archiepiscopal Sees were first Erected in the Year of Christ, one Thousand one Hundred and Fifty two, according to *Cambden*, from whom I have given an Account of many Bishopricks, that are now no where to be found, either because they are wholly abolished, or united to other Sees, as the Bishopricks of *Lismore* and *Waterford* are now but one Diocels, and the Sees of *Cork* and *Cluain* are under one Bishop.

### The Situation of IRELAND.

THE Kingdom of *Ireland* is bounded by *Spain* on the South-West, and by *France* on the South-East, *England* lies due East, and *Scotland* North-East, and the Main Ocean due West of it. The Island is observ'd by *Maginus* in Notes upon *Ptolemy* to resemble the Form of an Egg, and it lies between Fifty one and Fifty five of Latitude; according to the same Author, the longest Day in the South-East part of the Kingdom is sixteen hours and three Quarters, and in the North, full eighteen hours. The length of the Island is computed from a Place called *Carn ui Neid* in the South to *Cloch* and *Stacain* in *Ulster*, and the Breadth from *Inbher Mor* to *Hiarus Domhnom*. It is not the proper Business of this History to describe particularly the Cities, Towns, Harbors and Creeks of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, because *Cambden* in his new Chronicle has given a full Account of them, and they will fall under Consideration as far as is necessary when we come to speak of the Invasion of this Island by the *English*.

### An Account of the First Inhabitants of IRELAND, extracted from the most Ancient Manuscripts of the Kingdom.

TO give a Regular Account of the first Inhabitants of *Ireland*, I am obliged to begin at the Creation of the World; but it is not to be expected that at the Distance of so many Thousand Years, I should omit taking notice of some remarkable Passages which may be Censured as Fabulous, and it would be severe Treatment to judge of the value of this History, by the Credibility of such Relations; however, the Ancient Manuscripts of the Kingdom are the Guides I shall chiefly follow. It is Impossible

fible for me to have other Lights, which how obscure soever, are to be regarded for their Antiquity, and to be used with Caution, considering the Superstition and Ignorance of those dark Ages.

ADAM the first of Human Race was Created upon the sixth Day of the Age of the World, and when he lived fifteen <sup>do éiloin</sup> Years he begat *Cain* and his Sister *Colmana*, thirty Years after his <sup>adain ayo</sup> Creation he begat *Abel* and *Delbora* his Sister, and when he was a Hundred and Thirty Years old he begat *Seth*, according to the Computation of the *Welsb* in the *Polichronicon*.

*The Genealogie of NOAH to ADAM, and the distance of Time from ADAM to the Deluge.*

NOAH was the Son of *Lamech*, Son of *Methuselah*, Son of *Enoch*, Son of *Mahalael*, Son of *Enos*, Son of *Seth*, Son of *Adam* the Great Ancestor of Mankind, whose Descendants inhabited the Earth till the General Deluge, when the whole Posterity were reduced to the small number of *Noah's* Family. The distance of Time from *Adam* to the Flood was sixteen Hundred and Fifty six Years as the Poet observes in the following Disticht.

Cead Aimser an bheatha bhin otha adainh go Dilinn  
Se Bliadhna Caogad radhngle ar se cheaduibh ar mhile.  
*From the sixth Day, when Adam first was form'd*  
*Till God's avenging Wrath drowned all the World*  
*Was fifty six and sixteen Hundred Tears.*

Another Author of Great Antiquity agrees with this account; His verse is rough according to the Poetry of those Times, and may thus be expressed in *English*.

*Six Hundred and a Thousand Tears*  
*And Fifty six it plain appears*  
*Was all the Time the World had stood*  
*From the Creation to the Flood.*

The Age of *Noah*, and of his Forefathers is thus computed. *Noah* lived nine Hundred and Fifty Years, *Lamech* seven Hundred seventy seven, *Methuselah* nine Hundred sixty nine, *Enoch* three Hundred sixty nine, *Jared*, nine Hundred and sixty two, *Mahalael* eight Hundred and ninety five, *Cainan* nine Hundred and ten, *Enos* nine Hundred and five, *Seth* nine Hundred and twelve, and *Adam* nine Hundred and thirty Years.

The DIVISION of the World between the Sons  
of NOAH.

do noah  
Noah an do-  
man idir  
at-pi-mae

THE Wicked *Cain* by the Murder of his Righteous Brother did not only derive a Curse upon his own Head, but his Posterity were also mark'd by God with a Brand of Infamy, infomuch that the Descendants of *Seth* were expressly forbidden, to contract any Friendship of Alliance with them, and were commanded to avoid them as Persons abandon'd by Heaven and wholly out of the Care of Divine Providence. But this Injunction was soon disobeyed by the Family of *Seth*, who Married promiscuously into that cursed Line, and by their Sins brought down the Vengeance of God upon their own Heads, and upon all the Inhabitants of the Earth by a general Deluge, the Family of *Noah* only excepted. This Man found favour in the sight of God, who for his Piety and Obedience to his Commands preserv'd him and his Children in this Dreadful Visitation. He with his Wife *Cobba*, and his three Sons, *Shem*, *Ham* and *Japheth* with their three Wives, *Olla*, *Olvia* and *Olibana* survived the Drowning of the World, which was afterwards divided into three Parts, by *Noah* the Monarch of the Universe, and bestow'd upon his three Sons; to *Shem* he gave *Asia*, to *Ham* *Africa*, and Europe to *Japheth*, this Division of the whole Earth is thus Recorded by an Antient Poet.

do bi Noah  
ra clān  
col o raon  
rleaſa edin

Shem do ghaoh an Asia ait Cam gon acloin an Afraic  
Japhet fa mhic is iad do ghbh an Eouruip.  
Shem over Asia did the Scepter bear  
Ham govern'd Africa for heat severe  
And Japhet rul'd in Europe's cooler Air }

*An Account of the Posterity of the three Sons of Noah from whom descended the seventy two Families that attempted the Building of the Tower Babel.*

do eloin  
eloin Noah  
anyo

*Shem* was the Father of twenty seven Sons, from whom came *Apshaxed*, *Assur* and *Persuir*, and from them Descended the Nation of the *Hebrews*. *Ham* had thirty Sons and *Japhet* had fifteen; the Posterity of *Japhet* inhabited most of the Northern Country's of *Asia*, and all Europe; *Magog* one of the Sons of *Japhet* was the great Ancestors of the *Scythians*, and the several Families that invaded the Kingdom of *Ireland* after the Flood, before the *Milefians* made a Conquest of the Island; and this will more fully appear in the Body of this History.

of

*Of the first Invasion of IRELAND before  
the Flood.*

IT has been a general Complaint of Historians, that in searching into the Beginning of Kingdoms, and discovering the first Inhabitants of Countries, they are always perplex'd with insuperable Difficulties, and the higher they pursue their Inquiries, and the nearer they come to the Origin of a Nation, the more obscure and involv'd are the Antiquities of it, and all at last, ends in Romantick and Fabulous Relations, that are scarce Worthy of a Place in Historical Writings; but yet all Authors for want of better Information, and for the sake of Method, are obliged to mention the Accounts they meet with, how uncertain or incredible soever; and it is for the same Reason, that I shall Transcribe what is observ'd by the old Antiquaries, concerning the first Invasion of *Ireland* before the Flood; not that I would be thought to give Credit to such Chimerical Traditions, or would impose them upon the Belief of others, but I shall offer them faithfully as they are Recorded in the most Ancient Manuscripts that Treat of the first Inhabitants of that Kingdom,

Various are the Opinions concerning the first Mortal that set a Foot upon this Island; we are told by some, that three of the Daughters of *Cain* arrived here several Hundred Years before the Deluge, and the old Poet gives us this Account.

Tri hingiona chaid hin chain Mar aon is Seth mac Adhaimh

Ad Chonairc Banba ar Uus as Meabhair liom Aniomthus

*The Three fair Daughters of the Cursed Cain*

*With Seth the Son of Adam first beheld*

*The Isle of Banba.*

The White Book which in the *Irish* is called *Leabhar dhroma* leabhar dhroma *Sneachta* informs us, that the Eldest of these Sisters was called *Banba*, who gave a Name to the whole Kingdom. After them we are told that three Men and fifty Women arrived in the Island, one of them was called *Ladhra*, from whom was derived the Name of *Ardladhan*; These People liv'd forty Years in the Country, and at last they all died of a certain Distemper in a weeks Time; from their Death, it is said, that the Island was uninhabited for the Space of two Hundred Years, till the World was Drown'd.

We are told by others, that the first who set Foot upon the Island were three Fishermen, that were driven thither by a Storm

bachas an  
tinnis accu-  
at in bin

from the Coast of *Spain*; they were pleased with the Discovery they had made, and resolv'd to settle in the Country; but they agreed first to go back for their Wives, and in their return were unfortunately drowned by the Waters of the Deluge, at a Place called *Tuath Inbhir*. The Names of these three Fishermen were *Capa*, *Laighne* and *Luasat*, and for this Tradition we have the Authority of the Poet, who says.

Capa, Laighne is Luasat ghrin bhadar, bliadhain re ndilinn  
For Inis Banba namban bhadar go calma comhlán  
*Twelve Months before the Flood the Noble Isle*  
*Of Banba first was seen by Capa, Laighne,*  
*And Luasat, Men of Strength and fit for War.*

Others again are of Opinion, that *Ceasair* the Daughter of *Bith*, was the first that came into the Island before the Deluge, the Poet speaks thus to the same Purpose.

Ceasar inghin Bheatha bhuain Dalta Sabhuill mac nionuail  
An Chead bhian chalma do chinn, Dinis Banba ria ndilinn  
*Ceasar Daughter of the Good Beatha*  
*Nurs'd by the careful Hand of Sabhuill*  
*Was the first Woman in the List of Fame*  
*That set a Foot on Banba's rugged Shore*  
*Before the World was drowned.*

ning Stá  
Fionnec do  
cinnid na  
yeandéise  
ceaf céyá  
an eirín af  
má fuáindá  
eyeanSGni-  
ban

The Manuscripts of *Ireland*, though not Credited by their Antiquaries, give this Account of *Ceasars* first coming into this Island. When *Noah* was Building the Ark to preserve himself and his Family from the Deluge, *Bith* the Father of *Ceasar*, sent him to desire an Apartment for him and his Daughter to save them from the Approaching Danger. *Noah* having no Authority from Heaven to receive them into the Ark denied his request. Upon this Repulse, *Bith Fiontan* the Husband of *Ceasar*, and *Ladyba* her Brother, consulted among themselves what Measures they should take in this Extremity; but coming to no Resolution, *Ceasar* thought it proper to apply to an Idol and know how they should secure themselves and Families from the Flood, which by the Preaching of *Noah* they found would drown the whole World. They consented Unanimously to this Advice and (as the Devil ever attempted to Ape and Imitate Almighty God) the Oracle enjoyn'd them to build a Ship, in the Form of the Ark that *Noah* was preparing, and when they had laid in Provisions for a long Voyage, they should commit themselves to the Mercy of the Waves; but the Idol had no Knowledge of the Time when the Rains should begin to descend



descend upon the Earth: They immediately apply'd themselves to the Work, and with great Labour and Application at length fitted out the Vessel and put to Sea. The Persons that went on Board in this Manner, were *Birb*, *Ladbha* and *Fionntan* with their Wives *Cesar*, *Barran*, and *Balbha*, and fifty of the most Beautiful Women that would venture along with them; These raw Sailors for want of Skill in Navigation, were tossed and driven from Sea to Sea for the Space of seven Years and a Quarter, till they Arrived at last upon the Western Coast of *Ireland*, and Land- ed at a Place called *Dun na mbarc* in the Barony of *Corchadu ibhne*, as we may observe byin the following Verses.

As ann ghabhadar port ag Dun na mbarc an bhanntracht  
 Agcul Ceafrach agrich Charin acuig diag dia Sathrain.  
*The trembling Fair now unknown Climes explore*  
*And Sea-sick Land upon the Western Shore*  
*Of Ireland in Cefara's Wood.*

They came into the Island forty Days before the Waters began to overspread the Earth. Another old Poet gives the same Account of these Adventures, with this Additional Circumstance, that they began their Voyage from an Eastern Part of the World.

Do luig Anoir Cesar inghin bheatha an bhean  
 Gon a Coagad ingean Agus gon a triar fear.  
*Cesar the fair Daughter of Beatha*  
*Sail'd from the East with fifty Women more*  
*Attended by these Men for Valour fam'd.*

When the Ship came close to the Shore of *Dun na mbarc* on the Western Part of the Island, the first that set Foot upon the Land was *Ladbha*, the first Mortal that ever was upon the Island, according to those Antiquaries who say, that *Ireland* was never Inhabited before the Flood, but by *Cesar* and those who followed her Fortune in that Voyage. The Mountain *Sliabb Beatha* in that Country received its Name from *Beatha*, *Fear Fionntain* a Place near *Lochdeing* was so called from *Fionntain*, and from *Cesar* a Place in *Conacht*, was called *Carr Cesar*. These new Inhabitants when they had all Landed, began to make Discoveries in the Island, and they Travelled together till they came to the Fountain Head of the Rivers, *Sieur Feoir* and *Berbha*; here it was that the three Men agreed to divide the Fifty Women between them. *Fiontann*, besides his Wife *Cesar* had seventeen for his Share, *Birb* had his Wife *Barran* and seventeen more, and *Ladbha* had his Wife

Wife *Balbha*, and was satisfied with the sixteen that remain'd ; After this Division *Ladhra* set out with his Share of the Women and came to *Ardladhron* where he settled and died. His Wife with the Women that belong'd to her thought fit to remove and return to *Cesar* ; These Women were divided between *Bith* and *Fiontan* ; *Bith* took his Number to *Sliabh Beatha*, where he died. The Women that he left, apply'd themselves to *Fiontan*, who unable to comply with the Expectations of his *Seraglio*, was resolv'd to leave them ; and so ran away and came to *Leinster*. His Wife *Cesar* upon the Loss of her Husband, removed to a Place called *Cesara's Wood*, in *Conacht*, where out of Grief for her Husbands Absence and the Death of her Father and Brother, she broke her Heart ; and this happen'd but six Days before the Deluge, as the Poet observes in the Psalter of *Cashel*.

bis cesar  
an go do  
cumad a  
hac d r a fir

As iad San iar nuair bheachta andaoigeadha animheachta  
Ni raibh acht Seachtmhain na ndhia uaithuibh gus an geathracha.  
*And thus they dyed, as Fate decreed they should,*  
*Six Days before the rising of the Flood.*

tuigaleag-  
to nra nae  
na rca fir  
pimee lu-  
doteer fir  
ohtan

This is thought by the *Irish* Annals to be an unaccountable Relation, which it is impossible to give the least Credit to ; Nor have I inserted it in the beginning of this History with any Design that it should be believed, but only for the sake of Order, out of Respect to some Records of the Kingdom, that makes Mention of it ; but from whence Intelligence could be had of what past in this Island before the Flood, it is out of my Power to conceive ; and I never read of any Monuments or Inscriptions upon Pillars, to inform Posterity of such Transactions. To say that *Fiontan* preserved himself alive in the time of the Deluge is incredible in it self, and contrary to the Authority of Scripture, which Mentions but Eight Persons that survived the Flood, and every one knows that *Fiontan* was not one of those Persons. We have indeed some Ancient Manuscripts that give a Legendary Account of Four Persons, *Fors*, *Feavon*, *Andord*, and this *Fiontan*, that as they say, lived before and after the Deluge, and afterwards divided and possessed themselves of the Four Parts of the World ; but our Antiquaries that are best acquainted with the History of *Ireland*, reject such Fables with a just Indignation, supposing that those Authors who thus endeavour to deceive Mankind, have no other design but to bring the Genuine Antiquities of this Kingdom into Contempt. As for such of them who say that *Fiontan* was drowned in the Flood, and afterwards came to Life, and lived long to Publish the *Antediluvian* History of the

the Island, what can they propose by such Chimerical Relations, but to amuse the ignorant with strange and Romantick Tales, to corrupt and perplex the original Annals, and to raise a Jealousy that no manner of Credit is to be given to the true and authentick Chronicles of that Kingdom?

Besides, supposing it were possible that this *Frontan* could preserve himself in the Deluge, and live after it; how came it to pass that no Authors of any Character, have transmitted an Account of it to Posterity, that no Philosophers and Men of universal Learning of this Nation who were curious in discovering the Antiquities of their own Country should omit taking notice of so memorable an Event, and pass it over in Silence and unregarded? The whole Account therefore is no more than a spurious Legend, a poetical Fiction design'd to surprise Persons of low Capacities, and to impose upon the superstitious Vulgar, of too weak a Judgment to apprehend or detect the Falshood of it.

I must own there is a very good reason for me to believe that there was a very old Man in the time of St. *Patrick*, who lived some hundred Years before; and gave him a particular Account of the History of the Island; not only relating to some of the most remarkable Transactions of his own time, but he delivered down the Traditions he had received from his Ancestors that concerned the Antiquities of the Kingdom: But the Name of this Person was *Tuam* the Son of *Carril*, if we believe some Antiquaries, or, if we give credit to others, *Roanus*; that is, *Caoilte Mac Ronam*, who was above three hundred Years old; and inform'd St. *Patrick* of the Observations he had made thro' the Course of a long Life, relating to the Affairs of his own Country. This *Caoilte* was certainly the Man that was afterwards called *Roanus* or *Ronanus*; for there is not an old Record or Manuscript of any Authority in the Kingdom which makes not mention of *Frontan* by those Names; and therefore *Giraldus Cambrensis* could have no Foundation but his own Fancy for calling *Frontan* by the Name of *Roanus* or *Ronanus*; and to shew his Ignorance the more, confounds the Names, and understands the one for the other: This Author deserves no manner of Regard or Credit to be given him, and his Chronicle is the most partial Representation of the *Irish* History that was ever imposed upon any Nation in the World; he has endeavour'd to make the venerable Antiquities of the

W Island a mere Fable, and given occasion to the Historians that came after him to abuse the World with the same fictitious Relations. This *Caoilte* therefore must be the Person who went afterwards by the Name of *Romanus*; for the ancient Manuscripts of the Kingdom always mention him by this Name, and he is so called in a Book that he writ himself (to be found among the Works of St. *Patrick*) under the Title of *Historia Hiberniæ*; for in the Title Page, where the Name of the Author is particularly expressed, it is said to be written *Authore Romano*.

There is another Falshood to be met with in Doctor *Hammer's* Chronicle, which I am obliged to observe in this place, not only to shew the Partiality of that Writer, but to vindicate the *Irish* Nation from those vile Assertions that such Retailers of History have fixed upon them, who study to represent them as the most ignorant and superstitious People upon the face of the Earth. This Author, for reasons best known to himself, would have us believe that the *Gadelians*, or the old *Irish*, had a great Veneration for the Memory of this *Frontan*, whom he calls *Roamus*, and for the Account he gave of the Antiquities of that Kingdom. He lived it seems before the Flood, preserved himself in the Deluge, and continued alive about two thousand Years after. In his Travels about the Island he met with St. *Patrick*, and related to him the Transactions of many past Ages: This *Saint* made a Convert of him to Christianity, and baptized him, and about a Year after he died. He was buried near *Loch Ribb*, in a place where he says there is a Church dedicated to him by his own Name, which is now to be found in the Calendar of the *Irish* Saints: But there is not an Antiquary or a Manuscript of any Authority that encourages these *Romantic* Tales; and it is a common Practice of the *English* Writers to debase the Antiquities, and to raise a Character of their own Nation, upon the Ruins of the ancient *Irish*; but withal they sufficiently expose their own Ignorance and Incapacity for historical Writings, by Reason they give three several Names to the very same Person. He is called *Frontan* (but *Roamus* by *Giraldus Cambrensis*) and *Caoilte Mac Ronain*, who was baptized by St. *Patrick*, and discovered to him the original Accounts of the Island; and *Ruan* who consecrated *Lothra* in *Ormond* near *Loch Dierg*, not *Loch Ribb*, as *Hammer* would impose upon us. But I have no more time to throw away in refuting the Falshoods

Loe rib en  
upmumdin

breaga  
mailiseada  
hanmer.

hoods of this disingenuous Author or the Writers he followed. As for the Name *Romanus* I suppose *Giraldus* mistook and at first wrote it for *Romanus*, which led others who came after him into the same Error, and so it has been taken upon trust, and delivered down; and *Romanus* is the current Name with common Historians to this Day.

*An Account of the first Inhabitants of IRELAND after the Flood.*

THE first Person who set Foot upon the Island after the Deluge, was (according to some Antiquaries) a Messenger, whose Name was *Adhna* the Son of *Beatha*, sent by *Nion* the Son of *Pelus* to discover the Soil of the Country. He landed upon the Coast about seven score Years after the Flood, but made no stay; he only pluck'd up an Handful of Grass as a Proof, and returned with it to his Master. This Adventure is mentioned by an old Poet, whose Verses are to be found in the *Psalter of Cashel*, and begin thus, *Euairios, vide Psalter Chasbel.* Do not  
Sailors  
say it.

*Adhna Biotha's Son, we all agree  
After the Flood, first try'd the Irish Sea,  
He prov'd the Soil, and from the Earth he tore  
A Handful of rich Grass, then left the Shore,  
And so returned.*

This (as our Antiquaries observe) ought not, strictly speaking, to be reckoned a *Peopling* of the Island, because the Messenger made no stay, and left no Inhabitants behind him; but for the sake of Method it was thought not improper to mention it, the better to introduce the History of the first Colony, who settled in and took possession of the Country.

The Kingdom of *Ireland* lay wild and uninhabited for the Space of three hundred Years after the Deluge, till *Partholanus* Son of *Seara*, Son of *Siu*, Son of *Easru*, Son of *Framant*, Son of *Fathochda*, Son of *Magog*, Son of *Japhet*, Son of *Noah*, arrived there with his People; this the Poet takes notice of after this manner.

*The Western Isle three hundred Years lay waste,  
Since the wide Waves the stubborn World defac'd,  
Till Partholanus landed.*

By this Computation I am induc'd to believe that it was about two and twenty Years before *Abraham* was born that *Partholanus* came into *Ireland*, and in the Year of the World one thousand nine hundred seventy eight, as the Poet observes.

*A thousand and nine hundred Years had past,  
And seventy eight, since Adam first was formed,  
Till righteous Abraham was born.*

I am not of the Opinion of those Authors, who imagine that *Partholanus* landed in the Island about a thousand and two Years after the Flood, and at the same time allow that he was in *Ireland* in the time of *Abraham*. We are satisfied by Scripture, that *Abraham* was no more than the eighth in a direct Descent from *Noah* inclusive, and it is not to be supposed that a thousand Years should include no more than seven Generations. So that we have more Authority to believe that *Partholanus* reached the *Irish* Coast about three hundred Years after the Deluge. He began his Voyage from the Country of *Migdonia* in the middle of *Greece*, and steer'd towards *Sicily*, and leaving *Spain* upon the left, he came into the *Irish* Sea, and landed upon the fourteenth of *May* at a place called *Inbher Sceine* in the West of *Munster*; as the Poet observes in these Lines.

*The fourteenth Day of May the Greeks came o'er  
And Anchors cast, and landed on the Shore  
Of Inbher Sceine.*

Don Fern  
caminos le  
partholan  
anyo.

The Persons that attended *Partholanus* in this Voyage were his Wife *Dealgnait*, and his three Sons *Rugbraidhe*, *Slainge* and *Laighline*, with their three Wives and a thousand Soldiers, as we have the Account from *Ninus*, and the Psalter of *Cashel*. The Place where *Partholanus* fixed his Residence was at *Inis Samer* near *Earne*, and it received that Name from a Greyhound which *Partholanus* had killed in that Isle; the place therefore was so called from *Inis*, which signifies an *Isle*, and

*Samer*



*Samer* being the Dog's Name, it was stiled *Inis Samer*, or the *Dog's Isle*. The Death of this Greyhound was occasioned by the Passion and Resentment of *Partholanus*, who was inform'd of the loose Behaviour of his Wife, how she prostituted herself to one of her Footmen, whose Name was *Togba*. This Lady it seems was of an amorous Disposition, and not satisfied with the Embraces of her Husband, she chose for her Gallant one of the meanest of her Servants. *Partholanus* enraged at this Baseness began to expostulate with her, and upbraided her for her Immodesty and Breach of Faith; But she returned him this impudent Answer, *What could you otherwise expect? if you are so serv'd you must thank your self; for set Honey by a young Girl, or sweet Milk by a Child, or Meat by a Cat, or edg'd Tools by a Carpenter, or a poor weak Woman with a brisk young Fellow in private, and on my Word they won't long be asunder; Upon this occasion the old Poet has these Lines.*

*A Girl with Honey by her plac'd,  
Smells to the Pot, and longs to taste;  
A Child sweet Milk will cry to eat;  
A Cat will ne'er refuse her Meat;  
A Workman eagerly desires  
To use the Tool his Art requires;  
So Man and Woman, when alone,  
And the dull thing, a Husband gone,  
Will toy and trifle, till they prove  
The most endearing Sweets of Love.*

*Partholanus* astonish'd at this audacious Reply, in a Fit of Passion seized upon her favourite Greyhound, and threw it with all his Force upon the Ground, and it died upon the Spot. The Name of the Greyhound was *Samer*, as we observed before, and the place is called *Inis Samer* to this Day. This is the first Instance of Jealousy and Female Falshood in the *Irish* History. Seventeen Years after *Partholanus* landed in *Ireland*, one of his Followers died, whose Name was *Feadha* the Son of *Tartan*, he was the first Person that died in the Island, and from him *Magh Feadha* received its Name.

The reason why *Partholanus* left his own Country, and undertook this Voyage was, because he slew his Father and Mother in *Greece*, in order to obtain the Crown, and hinder his elder Brother of the Succession;



but the Vengeance of God overtook the inhuman Parricide, and destroyed some time after nine thousand of the Posterity of his Colony by the *Pestilence*; they were carried off within the Space of a Week at *Binneadair*, now called the Hill of *Hoath* near *Dublin*.

Cat. 2175  
1024 d. etc.  
cal.

There is an Account in some Authors (tho' of no Credit with the *Irish* Antiquaries) of a Sort of Inhabitants in the Island, before *Partholanus* brought over his Colony. These People were under the Government of *Ciocall* the Son of *Nil*, Son of *Garbh*, Son of *Uadhmair*, (who gave a Name to the Mountain *Sliabh*) whose Mother was *Loth Luainhneach*, and they lived two hundred Years by fishing and fowling upon the Coast. Upon the Arrival of *Partholanus* and his People, there was a bloody Battel fought between them at *Muigh Jotha*, where *Ciocall* and his whole Army were destroyed. The Place where *Ciocall* landed with his Followers is said to be *Inbher Dombnonn*, he came over in six Ships, and had fifty Men and fifty Women in every Ship; as the Poet relates in the following Verses.

*The brave Ciocall with three hundred Men,  
Cast Anchor in the Bay of Inbher Dombhion.  
But fighting to repel the bold Invaders  
Were all cut off.*

Seaf. loca  
le lin per-  
tolon.

In the time of *Partholanus*, seven Lakes broke out in the Island, which were these, *Loch Measg* in *Conacht*, *Loch Con*, and twelve Years after his Arrival *Loch Diechioldh* began to flow, and a Year after *Slainge* one of his Sons, and the fourth great Officer in the Government, died, and was buried at *Sliabh Slainge*; *Laighline* another Son died about a Year after that, and as his Grave was digging the *Loch Laighline* sprang out of the Hole, from whence it was called *Loch Laighline*: The next Year *Loch Eachtra* broke out between *Sliabh Mudboirn* and *Sliabh Fuaid* in *Oigialladh*; then flowed *Loch Rugbraidhe*, where *Rugbraidhe* another Son of *Partholanus* was drowned, and in the same Year *Lochluain* began to flow. *Partholanus* found but nine Rivers and three Lakes in the whole Island; the Lakes were *Loch Luimnuidh* in *Desmond*, *Fion Loch Cearra* at *Joryous*, *Dombnon* in *Conacht*, and *Loch Foinbreámbuin* at *Sliabh Mis* near *Trallee* in *Munster*. This is observed in a Poem in *Psalter na rann*, which begins thus *Achaomh chlain chuim chaomhsheang*, and the Verses are these.

†

*Three*



*Three pleasant Lakes at first adorn'd the Isle*  
 Loch Foirdreamhuin, Loch Lumnigh and Fionn Loch.

The nine Rivers were *Buas* between *Dalnaruidhe*, and *Dailriada*, this River is called *Rimbach*; *Liffée* which runs thro' part of *Leinster* to *Dublin*; *Lagi* or *Lee* that passes thro' part of *Munster* to *Cork*; *Sligo*, *Saimé* and *Muaidh* in *Conacht*; *Mudhorn* that runs thro' *Tireogain*; *Buas* that passes between *Tireogain* and *Tircomill*, and the River *Banna*, whose Stream flows between *Lee* and *Eille*, as the Poet mentions in a Poem that begins in this manner, *Adhamb Athair Sruith ar Sluagh*, &c.

*The ancient Streams that made the Country fruitful*  
 Were *Laoi*, *Buas*, *Banna*, *Ecarbh*,  
*Saimé*, *Sligo*, *Mudhorn*, *Muadh*, and *Liffée*.

Four Years after the first flowing of *Loch Muirhola* *Partholanus* died in the Plains of *Moynealta*, where he was buried; the place was called *Sean-Mhagh Ealta Eadair*, because the Soil was barren, and not so much as a Shrub would grow upon it, for the Word *Sean-Mhagh-Ealta* signifies a barren Plain; it was likewise called *Maghnealta* or *Moynealta* from the Number of Fowl that used to flock thither to bask themselves in the Sun, as was before observed. The Death of *Partholanus* happened thirty Years after his Arrival upon the Island, and, as some Antiquaries say, in the Year of the World two thousand six hundred and twenty eight, tho' I'm induced rather to follow the other Computation, which makes it appear that it was in the Year of the World one thousand nine hundred eighty six. Others imagine, that there were five hundred and twenty Years between the Death of *Partholanus* and the Destruction of his People by the Plague; but the learned Antiquaries are of another Opinion, who allow that the Island lay waste and uninhabited but thirty Years, after the Posterity of *Partholanus* and his Followers were thus destroyed, till *Nemedus* landed upon the Coast, as we are informed by the following Verses.

*A dreadful Plague laid all the Island waste*  
*Thro' every House and every Town it pass'd,*



*Not one remain'd alive: For thirty Years  
The Country desolate and wild appears,  
Till new Inhabitants arrived.*

We are informed by *Charles Mac Cuillionan* in the Psalter of *Cashel*, that it was three hundred Years from the time that *Partholanus* arrived in *Ireland* till the Plague swept away the People; and for his Opinion he refers to the Authority of *Eochaidh ó Flinn*, a Poet of some Repute, who has left us these Lines.

Ceadopao' ye  
is ionneaf-  
da ye ye  
and'g'g' do  
beir' p'op.

*Three hundred Years this warlike Progeny  
Possess'd the Island, till the Plague destroy'd  
Th' Inhabitants, and left the Country waste.*

The most learned Antiquaries have always allow'd of this Computation; and therefore they who reckon above five hundred Years between the Death of *Partholanus* and the Destruction of his People by the Pestilence, must be mistaken in their Account of time; for it seems incredible, that the Country should be inhabited above five hundred Years, and that the Number of Souls should amount to no more than nine thousand of both Sexes; especially when it is considered that *Partholanus* brought over with him a thousand when he first took Possession of the Island.

### *The Division of IRELAND between the four Sons of Partholanus that was born in IRELAND.*

Cead'g  
eloine' p'op  
toloin' anyo  
ye.

THE four Sons of *Partholanus* were *Er*, *Orbba*, *Fearon* and *Feargna*, and we are to observe that *Milesius* had four Grandsons of the same Name. These four divided the Kingdom into four parts, and shared it between them. *Er* possess'd all the Country from *Oileach Neid* in the North to *Dublin* in *Leinster*. *Orbba* governed all from thence to the Isle of *Barrymore* in *Munster*; *Fearon* enjoy'd all from thence to *Gallway* in *Conacht*, and *Feargna* ruled the whole Tract back to *Oileachneid* aforesaid. *Eochaidh ó Flinn* (an Antiquary, and Poet of great note amongst the *Irish*,) gives a particular Account of these Divisions in this manner.

*It was an Honour to the aged Monarch  
The dying Partholanus, that his Sons  
Four valiant Youths deserv'd the Kingdom after him.  
These Princes equally the Island shared;*

+

*They*

*They lived in Friendship and without Ambition;  
 Their Love in early Infancy appear'd,  
 And rose as Childhood ripen'd into Man.  
 Ireland was then a Wilderness untill'd,  
 O'errun with Brambles, and perplex'd with Thorns,  
 Till by the mutual Pains and hard Fatigue  
 Of these young Heroes it began to bear  
 And yield a Harvest suited to their Hopes.  
 Er was the eldest, noble, wise and brave,  
 He govern'd Northward from Oilcach Neid  
 To Dublin: and from thence to Barrymore,  
 A pleasant Isle, the Bounds of his Command,  
 Orbha possess'd.  
 Fearon, from the Grave of great Nemedius,  
 Injoy'd the fruitful Tract, with Plenty stored;  
 To Gallway; and from thence Feargna ruled  
 A spacious Territory to Oilcach Neid.  
 These Youths were by th' indulgent Care of Heaven  
 Design'd as Blessings on their native Isle.*

The Persons of Distinction that attended *Partholanus* into Ireland were *Tochacht*, *Tarbha*, *Trenjomus*, *Eathach-beal*, *Cul*, *Dorcha*, and *Dambliag*. There were four learned Men brought over in this Expedition, their Names were *Liag*, *Leagmbadh*, *Jomaire*, and *Eisbrighe*. The first that promoted Hospitality and good Neighbourhood, was *Beoir*, who made an Entertainment, and introduced the Custom of Feasting into the Island; which gave occasion to *Samaliliath* to invent the use of Cups for the Conveniency of drinking. *Breagha* recommended the pernicious Practice of Duelling and single Combat. The three principal *Druids* were *Fios*, *Eolus* and *Fochmair*; and their most expert Generals, who had distinguish'd themselves in Battel were *Muca*, *Mearan* and *Municneachan*; the Merchants who first began to establish a Trade were *Biobhal* and *Beabal*.

*Partholanus* had ten Daughters whom he married to Husbands of the first Quality among his own Countrymen; the Posterity of *Partholanus* and his Followers he transported with him, continued in the Island three hundred Years, from the time that this Prince arrived in the Country, till the whole Number of the Inhabitants, who were nine thousand Persons, were destroyed by the Plague at the Hill of *Hoath* in that Kingdom. It was three hundred Years after the Deluge that *Partholanus* landed upon the Coast, which makes up six

hundred Years from the Flood till this Colony perished by that dreadful Visitation.

*An Account of the Second Peopling of IRELAND by Nemedius and his Sons.*

Cise napa-  
rac deir  
mteine  
pantoloin.

**I**reland, we observed, continued without Inhabitants for thirty Years after the Death of the *Partholarians* till *Nemedius*, the Son of *Adnamhain*, Son of *Paim*, Son of *Tait*, Son of *Seara*, Son of *Sru*, Son of *Easru*, Son of *Frainmait*, Son of *Fathochta*, Son of *Magog*, Son of *Japhet*, Son of *Noah* arrived upon the Coast. All the original Inhabitants of the Island were the Descendents of *Magog*, for the learned Antiquaries are of opinion that the Account of *Ceasar*, that we have mention'd, is fabulous, and deserves no Credit. The Relation between *Partholanus* and *Nemedius* is to be carried no higher than to *Sru* the Son of *Easru*; the *Firbolgs*, the *Tuatha de Danans*, and the *Gadelians*, were the Posterity of *Seara*, and are several Branches of the same Family. These Tribes, notwithstanding they were dispersed into different Countries, retain'd the same Language, which was *Scotbhearla* or the *Irish*, and it was spoken as the Mother Tongue by every Tribe. This we have reason to believe from the Testimony of authentick Writers, who relate that when *Ithus* the Son of *Breogan* arrived in *Ireland* from *Spain*, he convers'd with the *Tuatha de Danans* in their own Language, as will more particularly appear in its proper place.

Others are of opinion that *Nemedius* descended from one of the Sons of *Partholanus* called *Adbla*, who was left behind in *Greece*, and did not attend his Father in the *Irish* Expedition. *Nemedius* began his Voyage from the *Euxine* Sea, which is the Boundary between the North West part of *Asia* and the North East of *Europe*. He passed by the Mountains of *Sleibhte Rife*, on the left Hand, and came to a place called *Aigen* in the North; from thence arrived upon the Coast of *Ireland*. His Fleet consisted of four and thirty Transports, and he man'd every Vessel with thirty Persons. *Nemedius* had four Sons who followed his Fortune, their Names were *Starn*, *Jarbhainiel Faidh*, *Aminn* and *Fergus Leathdearg*.



There broke out four Lakes in the Island in the time of *Nemedius*, *Loch Breanuin* at a place call'd *Magh na Sul Annibh Niallain*; *Loch Muinramhair* at *Magh Sola* in *Leinster*; and ten Years after his first Arrival *Loch Dairbhreach*, and *Loch Ainnin* at *Magh Mor* in *Meath* began to flow; the Lake *Ainnin* sprang out of the Grave that was digging for *Ainnin* the Son of *Nemedius*, and was called after his Name. The Poet gives this Account of these Lakes.

*Then the four Lakes began to flow  
And water'd all the Plains below;  
Loch Dairbhreach, and Loch Breannuin,  
Loch Muinramhair and Loch Ainnin.*

*Macha* the Wife of *Nemedius* died before her Son *Ainnin*, after she had been in *Ireland* about twelve Years; from her, *Ardmach* received its Name, because she was buried in that place. *Nemedius* built two Royal Seats in the Island which were called *Cinneibh* at *Foubhniallain* and *Raith Ciombhaoith* in *Seimbne*. These Palaces were erected by the four Sons of *Madain Muinreamhair* who were called *Fomboraicc*, their Names were *Bog*, *Robbog*, *Rodan* and *Ruibhne*. These Master Builders and their Countrymen were distinguish'd by the Name of *Fomboraicc*, because they were a sort of Pyrates or Sea Robbers, that came originally from *Africa*, and settled from that time in the North of *Ireland*. The next Morning after these Palaces were finish'd, *Nemedius* commanded the four Builders to be slain out of Jealousy, lest they should afterwards erect other Structures that should exceed his in State and Magnificence. These Brothers were killed at a place called *Doire Lighe*, and there they were buried.

*Nemedius* designing to improve the Soil of the Country, cut down twelve Woods of a very large Extent, and laid the Land open; their Names were *Magh Ceara*, *Magh Neara*, *Magh Cuille Tolla*, *Magh Luirg* in *Conacht*, *Magh Tochair* in *Tireogain*, *Leacmbadh* in *Munster*, *Magh Breasta* in *Leinster*, *Magh Lughaidh* at *Jobh Turtre*, *Magh Seireadh* at *Seabbha*, *Magh Seimne* at *Dalnarnuidhe*, *Magh Muirtheimbne* at *Breagmbuigh*, and *Magh Macha* at *Oirgialladh*.

Those African Pyrates called *Fomboraicc* were the Descendents of *Shem*; they fitted out a Fleet, and set sail from *Africa*, and steering toward the Western Isles of *Europe*,

*Europe*, they landed upon the *Irish* Coast. The Design of their Voyage was to separate themselves from the Posterity of *Ham*, who was cursed by *Noah* his Father, lest they should be involved in the same Punishment, which they thought they should avoid by flying and settling in another Country. But some time after they arrived, *Nemedius* engaged them in three bloody Battels, and came off Conqueror; the first Battel was fought at *Sliabh Blaidhmia*, the second at *Ross Fraochain* in *Conatcht*, where *Gan* and *Geanan* were slain, the two principal Commanders of the *Africans*. They fought the third Battel at *Murbuilg* in *Dailriadab*, where *Starn* the Son of *Nemedius* was killed by *Conuing* the Son of *Faobbar*. But in the fourth Battel, which was the most bloody and desperate, and was fought at *Cnambruin* in *Leinster*, *Nemedius* was defeated, and his Forces, which were most of the Men he had in his Kingdom, were cut to pieces: Among the slain was *Arthur* the Son of *Nemedius* born in *Ireland*, and *Johbcthon* the Son of his Brother *Starn*. This Misfortune broke the Heart of *Nemedius*, who died soon afterwards, with two thousand of his Subjects Men and Women with him, at a place called *Oilean arda Nemhid*, now called the Isle of *Barrymore* in the County of *Cork* in the Province of *Munster*.

The *Africans* upon the Death of *Nemedius*, a Prince of great Bravery and Courage, and whose very Name before had been a Terror to those Pyrates, pursued their Victory, and made an entire Conquest of the Country. They resolved to revenge upon the *Nemedians* the Loss they had sustained in so many bloody Battels, and taking Advantage of the Death of the *Irish* General, they immediately assembled their Forces, and with small Difficulty made themselves Masters of the whole Island. So that these Vagabond *Africans*, who settled at *Torimis*, or (as some call it *Tor Conuing*) in the North of *Ireland*, intirely subdued the old Inhabitants, and made them Tributaries.

*Morc* the Son of *Dela* and *Conuing* the Son of *Faobbar* (which gave the Name to *Tor Conuing*) to support themselves in their new Conquests, fitted out a Fleet, and strengthened themselves with a standing Army, and by these military Methods harassed the unfortunate *Nemedians*, and obliged them to bring the Tax and Contributions they laid upon them, from the several parts of the Island to a place called *Magh Gceidne*

Edin epho  
do yltiof  
Sem an ei-  
ninn.

rud Neimis  
bet an can  
ro.

Dloirre  
clana Mei-  
mis fa fo-  
mardec.

*Gceidne* between *Drobbaois* and *Eirne*, and to deliver their Tribute punctually upon the first Day of *November* every Year. These Conquerors were very cruel and severe in their Exactions upon the vanquish'd; for they demanded two parts of their Children, of their Cattle, of their Milk, Butter and Wheat, which was collected in this manner. The *Africans* employed a Woman to be the general Receiver of their Tribute, and she obliged every Family in the Island to pay three Measures of wheaten Meal, three Measures of Cream, and three Measures of Butter every Year, and compelled them to bring their Contributions to *Magh Gceidne* before mentioned. This place received its Name from the Violence that was used upon the *Nemedians* in the collecting of their Taxes, for the Word *Magh* signifies a Field or Plain, *Gceidne* signifies Compulsion or Force; and the two Words when they are joined make *Magh-gceidne*, which signifies the Field wherein the *Nemedians* were forced to pay the Tribute that their Masters the barbarous *Africans* thought fit to exact, as the Poet observes in these Lines.

*Three Measures of a larger Size  
Of Cream and Butter, scarce suffice  
The haughty Victor's Avarice.  
As many Measures they demand  
Of Wheaten Meal, as Tribute for their Land.*

The *Nemedians* unable any longer to bear the Oppression of these Tyrants, resolved to shake off the Yoke, and to make one vigorous Effort to recover their Liberty; the Principal of them met and concerted Measures for a general Revolt; they agreed to summon all the Force they were able, and to try the Fortune of a pitched Battel with the *Africans*; accordingly they formed an Army under the Command of three expert Generals, whose Names were *Beothach* the Son of *Jarbanell*, *Fathach* the Son of *Nemedius*, and his Brother *Fergus Leathdbearg*; and to give their Men the greater Courage, there were three Brothers who appeared in the Field, and were Officers of more than common Bravery and Conduct, *Earglan* the Son of *Beoan*, Son of *Stairn*, Son of *Nemedius*, and his two Brothers *Mannan* and *Jaribacht*; these were Champions of the *Nemedians*, who offered to expose themselves in the hottest of the

Engagement and to repel the Fury of the Enemy. Thier Army by Land consisted of thirty thousand able Men, and they had the same Strength by Sea, as the Poet observes in this manner.

*Now the Nemedians bravely make a stand  
Eager of Fight, and only wait Command,  
With sixty thousand Men by Sea and Land.*

The *Nemedians* fell desperately upon the Enemy, and a bloody Battle ensued, wherein *Conuing* the *African* General, with all his Children were slain, and his Garrison which he had fortified was taken and destroyed.

During this Attempt of the *Nemedians* to free themselves from Slavery, *Morc* the Son of *Dela* was absent with his Fleet in *Africa*; but he returned soon after the Battel, and landed at *Torinis* with sixty Sail, and a numerous Army on board; and as they attempted to come on Shore, the *Nemedians* opposed them, and a most desperate Fight followed. The two Armies fought with equal Courage upon the Strand, without any Sign of Victory on either side, and the greatest part of their Men were slain. The Action was so hot that they did not observe how the Tide flow'd in upon them, till they were quite surrounded, and when they offered to retire upon the Land they were hindered by the Depth of the Waters, so that those who had escaped the Sword were drowned. *Morc* the Son of *Dela* had the good Fortune to make his way to his Shipping, and having the Advantage of his Fleet, and with the Remains of his Forces took Possession of the whole Island. Of the *Nemedians* no more than thirty brave Officers and three principal Commanders escaped in a Sloop out of the whole Army. The Names of the three Generals were *Simon Breac* the Son of *Stairn*, the Son of *Nemedius*, *Jobbath* Son of *Beothach*, Son of *Jarbbhanell* *Faibach* Son of *Nemedius*, and a Grandson of *Nemedius* called *Briotan Maol* the Son of *Fergus Leathdearg*.

The Chief of the *Nemedians* upon this unfortunate Defeat, after they had consulted among themselves, resolved unanimously to quit the Island rather than submit again under the Yoke of the *Africans*; but they were seven Years before they had an Opportunity to put this Design in Execution. Then these three Generals divided the Shipping which *Nemedius* first brought into

imceda fela-  
neimib a  
heirib dea-  
glao poik-  
gac.

into the Island, between them, and receiving as many of their People that would venture to follow them, they weigh'd Anchor, and stood out to Sea. The *Nemedians* that remained in the Country were miserably oppress'd by the Tyranny of their Conquerors, and lived in this State of Servitude under the Government of ten principal Commanders, till the *Fribolgs* landed in the Island.

*Simon Breac* the Son of *Stairn*, the Son of *Nemedius*, who was one of the three Generals that left the Country, arrived at *Greece* with the People he had on board, and, instead of finding that Liberty which he expected, he and his Followers only exchanged one Slavery for another; from this *Simon Breac* the *Fribolgs* derive their Original, as will be observed in its proper place. The second General was *Jobbath* another Grandson of *Nemedius*, who sailed with his Men to the Northern parts of *Europe*, and some Antiquaries are of Opinion that the *Tuatha de Danans* descended from him. The third General was *Briotan Maol* the Son of *Feargus Leathdbearg* Son of *Nemedius*, who landed in the Northern parts of *Scotland*, and there settled; and his Posterity were long possessed of that Country. The Number of Ships the *Nemedians* procured upon this occasion consisted of eleven hundred and thirty Sail of Sloops, Barks and Boats, some of which were covered with Leather, and called in the *Irish* Language *Naombhogs*. The Posterity of *Briotan Maol* and his Followers continued in the North of *Scotland*, till the *Picts* sailed from *Ireland* to inhabit that part of *Scotland*, in the time of *Heremon* the Son of King *Milesius*, as will appear hereafter when we come to the Reign of that Prince.

We are informed by *Charles Mac Cuillenan* in his *Na breac-  
Psalter of Cashel*, that the *Welsh* in *Britain* descended originally from this *Briotan Maol*; and the most an-  
cient Manuscripts of *Ireland* give the same Account, *nn̄ḡle do  
teaf̄o b̄rio-  
tan 2̄l̄ol  
m̄e f̄eaḡura  
leat̄beiḡ.* as the Poet observed in his Poem which begins thus, *Adamh Aibair Sruith ar Sluagh. Adam was our Father,* &c. the Verses follow.

— The brave Nemedian Train  
Under Briotan launch into the Main;  
A Prince, whom all the ancient Annals trace  
As the great Founder of the British Race.

Another Poet and Antiquary makes the same Remark in this manner.

*The warlike Welsh the great Briotan claim  
To be the Founder of the British Name.*

And we have more Reason to suppose that the Word *Britannia* was derived originally from this *Briotan* than from *Brutus* the *Trojan*, which is a Fable that some Historians are very fond of; for if it were so, it would rather be called *Brutannia*. Besides we are informed by *Jeoffry* of *Monmouth*, that the ancient Name of the Country was changed by the three Sons of *Brutus*; his Son *Laegrus* called his part of the Kingdom *Laegria*, *Camber* the second Son distinguish'd his Share by the Name of *Cambria*, and *Albanactus* the third Son would have his part known by the Name of *Albania*. So that this Account from the authentick Records of the *Irish* Nation gives a great Light to the Name of *Britain*, and deserves our Belief rather than the fabulous Relations of Partial and Romantick Writers, who have been the Bane and Destruction of true History.

do not think  
degraded  
an abused  
can improve.

The *Nemedians*, who remained in *Ireland*, were sorely oppressed by the Tyranny of their *African* Masters, till the Posterity of *Simon Breac*, the Son of *Stairn*, the the Son of *Nemedius*, who had settled in *Greece*, came into the Island. These People were called *Firbolgs*, and landed in the Country, two hundred and seventeen Years after *Nemedius* first arrived upon the Coast. This is the Observation of an old Poet, who has these Lines.

*Seventeen above two hundred Tears had past,  
Since first Nemedius landed on the Coast,  
Till the bold Firbolgs left the Grecian Shore  
For Liberty, and would be Slaves no more.*



*The Invasion of I R E L A N D by the  
Firbolgs.*

**S***imon Breac* the Son of *Stairn*, the Son of *Nemedius* with his Followers landed in *Greece*, where the Posterity of these Adventurers settled, and in Process of time increased to be a numerous People. The *Grecians*, out of Fear they should attempt against the Government, and occasion Disorders in the State, resolved to use them like Slaves more than Subjects; they oppressed them with hard Labour and the severest Drudgery; they forced them to sink Pits, and dig Clay in the Valleys, and carry it in Leathern Bags to the Tops of the highest Mountains, and the most craggy Rocks, in order to form a Soil upon those barren Places, and make them fruitful, and bear Corn. The *Nemedians* groaning under the Weight of this Servitude, came to a Resolution to shake off the Yoke, and to quit the Country; this Design was kept so secret, that the Chief of the *Nemedians* seized upon some of the *Grecian* Shipping (as the white Book called *Cion Droma Sneachta* gives the Account) and with five thousand that followed them they set to Sea, and sailed till they arrived upon the Coast of *Ireland*. This Tribe, whose Ancestors came to *Greece* with *Simon Breac* the Son of *Stairn*, landed in the Island about two hundred and sixteen Years after the Death of *Nemedius*. They had five principal Leaders in this Voyage, *Slainge*, *Rugbraidhe*, *Gann*, *Geanann* and *Seangann*; these Commanders were the Sons of *Loich*, Son of *Triobhuaith*, Son of *Othoirbh*, Son of *Goidean*, Son of *Oirtheachta*, Son of *Simon*, Son of *Arglamb*, Son of *Beoan*, Son of *Stairn*, Son of *Nemedius*, Son of *Adnamuin*, Son of *Pamp*, Son of *Tait*, Son of *Seara*, Son of *Sru*, Son of *Easru*, Son of *Framaint*, Son of *Fatbochta*, Son of *Magog*, Son of *Japhet*, Son of *Noah*. They had their five Wives with them *Fuaid*, *Eadair*, *Anuist*, *Cnucha* and *Labhra*, as the Poet records in these Lines.

*These brave Commanders, Slainge, Gann and Seangann  
With Geanuinn and Rughruidhe, Heroes all,  
And their five Wives, the beautiful Fuaid,  
The fair Eadair, Anuist the chaste,*

*The virtuous Cnucha, Labhra born for Love,  
Chearfully followed by five thousand Men  
Who scorn'd the Grecian Servitude, set sail,  
And safely landed on the Irish Shore.*

These five Princes the chief Leaders of the *Fir Bolgs* divided the Island between them into five almost equal parts, as the Poet observes in this manner.

*Five warlike Chiefs, Geanann, Rughruidhe,  
Gann, Slainge and Seangann shared the Island.*

2015 fcd  
mbol5 agur  
mim 5ac fir  
da ccadlyse-  
acais del-  
rill.

*Slainge*, from whom *Inbber Slainge* by *Wexford* received its Name, had to his Share the Province of *Leinster* from *Inbber Colpa* near *Drocheda* to the Meeting of the three Streams, and a thousand Persons were allotted him. *Gann* possessed all from thence to *Bealach Conglais*, and he took his thousand with him. *Seangann* ruled the Country from thence to *Limerick*, and had a thousand for his Share; *Geanann* governed the Province of *Conacht* from *Limerick* to *Drobbaois* near *Drocheda*, he had likewise his thousand; and *Rughruidhe* with his thousand Followers, enjoyed the Province of *Ulster* from *Drobbaois* to *Drocheda*. From those five Sons of *Dela* and the People that followed them, descended the *Firbolgs*, the *Firdombnoins* and the *Firgailians*, who were so called for these reasons. The *Firbolgs* were those *Nemedians* whose Business it was in *Greece* to carry those Leathern Bags of Earth before mentioned, and from hence they received their Name; for the Word *Bolg* signifies a Bag, and *Fir* signifies Men, which compounded make *Firbolgs*. The second Tribe were called *Firdombnoins*; their Office was to sink deep Pits in the Earth, and dig out the Clay for their Fellows to carry; they were called *Firdombnoin*, because *Fir* signifies Men, and *Dombnoin* signifies deep, which relates to the deep Holes they were obliged to dig, and the Words, when they are joined, sound *Firdombnoin*. The third Tribe were always under Arms to protect the other Tribes in their Work, and to guard them from their Enemies who otherwise might come upon them fatigued and unarmed. They were called *Firgailians*; for *Fir* signifies Men and *Gailiam* signifies a Spear, which they used in their Defence, which Words put together make *Firgailiam*.

These five Sons of *Dela* arrived in *Ireland* in the Compass of a Week; *Slainge* landed upon a *Saturday* at *Inbber Slainge*, which for that reason was so called,

for *Inbher* signifies a River, and *Slainge* sailing up that River, and landing in that place, the Stream was afterwards called *Inbher Slainge*; this River runs thro' part of *Leinster* to *Wexford*. *Gann* and *Seangann* the Tuesday following came on Shore at *Jorrus Dombnoin* in *Connacht*; and *Geanann* and *Rugbraidhe* arrived the Friday after, at a place called *Tracht Rugbraidhe*. The *Nemedians* that followed *Slainge* were called *Firbolgs*, and the two thousand that belong'd to *Geanann* and *Rugbraidhe* went by the Name of the *Firdombnoins*. Some Antiquaries are of Opinion, that these two Princes, with their Number of Men, landed in the North West of *Connacht*, at a place called *Inbher Dombnoin*, which afterwards for that reason was distinguished by that Name; yet generally speaking, all the People who followed the five Sons of *Dela* in this Expedition were known by the Name of *Firbolgs*, and before these five Generals arrived in the Island, we have no Account of any that could properly be called Kings of Ireland, as the Poet informs us in these Lines:

*Fifty six Tears the Firbolgs Royal Line  
Were Kings, and then the Scepter they resign  
To the Tuatha de Danans* —————

*An Account of the first Kings of IRELAND,  
as recorded in the Book of Invasions.*

1. **S** *Lainge* the Son of *Dela*, Son of *Laich*, the chief Commander of the *Firbolgs* was the first Monarch of Ireland; he reigned one Year, and died at a place called *Dumbha Slainge*.

2. *Rugbraidhe* Son of *Dela*, Son of *Loich* succeeded, he enjoyed the Crown but two Years, and was drowned in the Boyne. Cead Ríge  
eilion do  
nein an le-  
abá Sabala

3. *Geanann* and *Senagann*, Sons of *Dela*, ruled the Kingdom together; their Reign lasted but four Years, and they died at a Place called *Freambain*.

4. *Gann* the Son of *Dela*, Son of *Loich*, succeeded his Brothers, he governed five Years, and was slain by *Fiacha Cinnfionnan*.

5. He was succeeded by *Fiacha Cinnfionnan* the Son of *Stairn*, Son of *Rugbraidhe*, Son of *Dela*, Son of *Loich*, he reigned five Years, and was slain by *Riondal* Son

Cín Fionn  
 do bíos 3  
 fedaib eir-  
 on re hín an  
 72105 70.

Son of *Geannuinn*, Son of *Dela*, Son of *Loich*. This Monarch was called *Fiacha Ciomfhiannan* because most of the *Irish* in his time were remarkable for their *white* or *fair Hair*, for the Word *Cinnfhiann* signifies *white Heads*, which was the Occasion of that part of his Name.

6. His Successor was *Riondal* the Son of *Geannuinn*, the Son of *Dela*, Son of *Loich*, he enjoyed the Crown six Years, and was killed in an Engagement by *Fiodhbhgbean* at a place called *Craoibhe*.

7. *Fiodhbhgbean* the Son of *Seanghan*, Son of *Dela*, Son of *Loich* succeeded him; he reigned four Years, and fell in Battel as he fought against *Eochaidh* Son of *Eirc* at a place called *Muigh Muirtheimbne*.

8. *Eochaidh* Son of *Eirc*, Son of *Riondal*, Son of *Geannuinn*, Son of *Dela*, Son of *Loich* succeeded, and enjoyed the Crown longer than any of his Predecessors, for he reigned ten Years. This was a very fortunate Prince; for in his time the Weather was temperate and healthy, the Produce of the Earth was not damaged by any immoderate Rains, and Plenty and Prosperity prevailed thro' the whole Island. He was the first Monarch who restrained the Outrages of his People by Laws, and kept them in Obedience and Civility by wholesome Punishments. He at last fell in Battel, engaging with the three Sons of *Neimhidh*; Son of *Badbraoi* at a place called *Muighe Tuirridh*. The Names of these Brothers were *Ceasarb*, *Luacro* and *Luaim*. In the Reign of this Prince, who was the last Monarch of *Ireland*, of the *Firbolgs* Race, the *Tuatha de Danans* invaded the Island: He married *Tailte* the Daughter of *Magbmor* King of *Spain*; when she died she was buried in a place, which from her was called *Tailtean*, and it is known by the same Name to this Day.

The King of the *Tuatha de Danans*, when they invaded *Ireland*, was *Nuadha Airgidlamb*, that is, *Silver-banded*: This Prince engaged *Eochaidh*, and a most desperate Battel was fought at *Muigh Tuirriodh*, between the two Kings, in which *Eochaidh* the Son of *Eirc* was routed, and ten thousand, or, according to others, an hundred thousand of the *Firbolgs* were slain. In this Action *Nuadha Airgidlamb* lost his Hand; the Wound was seven Years under Cure, and he was forced to have a *Silver Hand* fixed to his Arm, from whence he was called *Nuadha Airgidlamb*, that is, *Nuadha the Silver-banded*. The *Firbolgs*,

Nuadha Air-  
 gidlamb an  
 70.

*Firbolgs*, who escaped this Defeat retired to the Isle of *Arran*, *Eilie*, *Rachruin*, *Iuis Gall*, and other Places for Safety, where they could best secure themselves from the *Tuatha de Danans*, and there they remained till the Provincial Times, when every one of the Provinces of *Ireland* was governed by its own King. About that time the *Picts* expelled them out of these Places, and forced them to apply to *Canbry Niafer* King of *Leinster*, who received them, and gave them Lands to cultivate as Tenants under him, but he exacted such Rents of them, and was so oppressive in the Revenues he demanded, that they were obliged to give up their Farms, and move to *Conacht*. They desired the Protection of *Meidheibh Chraichna* the Queen of that Province, who prevailed upon her Husband *Oliolla* to bestow some Lands upon them for their Support. *Augus* the Son of *Nuadnor* was the Prince of the *Firbolgs* at that time, and the Possessions they enjoyed in *Conacht* are known to this Day by some of the Names of that People; such are *Cime*, *Ceithirchinn*, *Roinn Jamhain*, *Loch Cathro*, *Rinn Meadbra*, *Molinn*, *Dun Aonguis* in *Arran*, *Carn Connul*, *Magh Naduir*, *Magh Nafuil*, *Magh Maqin*, *Loch Uair*, and many others. The *Firbolgs* were dispersed into several Islands and other parts of the Country, till *Congcuiloin* and *Connul*, *Cearuach* and *Ulster* quite drove them out of the Kingdom. We have no Account in our Annals that the *Firbolgs*, during their Continuance in the Island, erected any Royal Seats or Edifices of Note, or made any great Improvements by clearing the Lands of Woods, or that any Lake or River began to flow since their Arrival at first, till the time they were finally expelled the Country.

There are three Families in *Ireland*, as our Antiquaries inform us, that are the lineal Descendants of the *Firbolgs*, and not of the *Gadelian* Race, which are *Gabhraidhe* in *Succa* in *Conacht*, *Ui Tairfigh* in *Crioch á Failge* and *Gailiun* in *Leinster*. And this is all the Account of the *Firbolgs* that can be extracted from the ancient Records of *Ireland*, and we have no small Assistance in writing the History of this People from the famous Antiquary *Tamuidhe ó Maol Conaire* who begins his Poem in this Manner;

*Under five Chiefs the Firbolgs once possess'd  
The Island, till at last by Force oppress'd,  
They fled.*



The Invasion of IRELAND by the  
Tuatha de Danans.

Ceas tuda  
ta de da  
nan aheiriu.

THE *Tuatha de Danans* were the Posterity of those who followed the third Son of *Nemedius* out of Ireland when the *Africans* had usurp'd the Kingdom, and enslaved the Inhabitants. This People, rather than bear the heavy Oppressions of those Pyrates, left the Island under the Command of *Jarbhaimel Faidh* a Son of *Nemedius*, and arrived, if we believe some Antiquaries, in *Baotia*; others say that they came to *Athens*, and settled near the City of *Thebes*; yet the truest Account is that they landed in *Achaia* a Country of Greece, that borders upon *Baotia*, and near it stands the City of *Thebes*, according to the Account of *Pomponius Mela*. Here it was that the *Tuatha de Danans* learned the Art of Necromancy and Enchantment, and they became so expert in Magical Knowledge, that they had a Power of working wonderful Feats, so far as seemingly to raise the Dead; for when the Country of *Achaia* and the City of *Athens* were invaded by the *Assyrians*, and several Battels fought between them, these Sorcerers would use their diabolical Charms, and revive the Bodies of the Dead *Athenians*, and the next Day bring them into the Field, which so dispirited the *Assyrians* that they began to despair of Victory, and thought to give over the Enterprize, and to return into their own Country; for to what purpose was it to fight, and come off Conquerors one Day, when they were to encounter the same Enemies the next? And these Inchanters were so dextrous in their Art, as by the Assistance of evil Spirits to infuse fresh Life and Vigor into the Bodies of the slain, so that the *Athenians* were sure never to be overcome. But the *Assyrians* resolved to take the Advice of a *Druid* of great Learning among them, and if possible discover in what manner they could defeat the Skill of these *Necromancers*, and break the Power of their Charms. The *Druid* told them, that after a Battel was over, they should thrust a *Club* or a *Stake* of Quick Beam Wood thro' every one of the dead Bodies, which would have this Effect, that if it was the Power of the Devil by which they were brought to Life, this Counter-charm would defeat the Skill of the Inchanters, and the Bodies could

Cuailtibe  
edontan do  
ragas tre  
cepp njsb  
anyo.



could never more be revived, but if it was the Hand of Heaven that brought to pass this wonderful Event, it was impossible to withstand an *Almighty Power*, and their securest way was to desist from the Undertaking. The *Assyrians*, relying upon the Advice of the *Druid*, immediately challenged the *Athenians* to a pitched Battel, when they fought with great Courage, and obtain'd a complete Victory: After the Fight they drove *Stakes* thro' the Bodies of the dead *Athenians*, and so the evil Spirits had no more Power to take Possession of them, and the Sorcerers were disappointed. The *Tuatha de Danans* perceiving their Art to be ineffectual, came to a Resolution of quitting the Country, for fear of falling into the Hands of the *Assyrians*; accordingly they set out, and wander'd from place to place, till they came to *Norway* and *Denmark*, where they were received with great Hospitality by the Inhabitants, who admired them for their Learning and Skill in *Magick*, and the wonderful Effects of their Enchantments.

The Person who was the principal Commander of these People in their Travels was *Nuadbah Airgiodlamh*, that is, the *Silver-handed*, who descended from *Numerius*. The *Danes*, being a very barbarous and illiterate Nation, entertain'd such a Regard for these Strangers, that they gave them four Cities to inhabit, where they should erect Schools to instruct the Youth of the Country in their *diabolical* Learning. The Names of these Cities were *Falias*, *Gorias*, *Finnias* and *Murias*; in each City the *Tuatha de Danans* appointed Tutors as Presidents of these Schools; they were Persons of the greatest Skill among them; *Moirsbias* was to teach in the City *Falias*, *Arias* in the City *Finnias*, *Erus* in the City *Gorias*, and *Semias* in the City *Murias*.

When the *Tuatha de Danans* had continued for some time in this Country, they thought fit to move, and look out for a new Settlement, and they arrived in the North of *Scotland*, where they continued seven Years near *Dobbar* and *Jardobbar*: From the four Cities which they possessed in *Denmark* and *Norway* they brought away four Curiosities or *Monuments* of great Antiquity; the first was a *Stone*, which was called *Lia Fail*, and was brought from the City of *Falias*, from which Stone that City receiv'd its Name. This Stone was possess'd of a very wonderful Virtue, for it would make a strange Noise, and be surprizingly disturb'd whenever a Monarch of *Ireland*

was crowned upon it, which Emotion it continued to shew, till the Birth of Christ, who contracted the Power of the Devil, and in a great Measure put an end to his Delusions. It was called the *Fatal Stone*, and gave a Name to *Inisfail*, as the Poet observes in these Verses.

*From this strange Stone did Inisfail obtain  
Its Name, a Tract surrounded by the Main.*

This Stone called *Lia Fail* had likewise the Name of the *Fatal Stone*, or the Stone of *Destiny*, because a very ancient Prophecy belong'd to it, which foretold that in whatever Country this Stone should be preserv'd, a Prince of the *Scythian* Race, that is, of the Family of *Milefius* King of *Spain*, should undoubtedly govern; as *Hector Boetius* gives the Account in his History of *Scotland*.

Ni fallat fatum, Scoti quocunque locatum  
Invenient lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem.

In the *Irish* Language it runs thus:

Cineadh Suit Saor an fine Munab breag an fhaifdine  
Mar abhfuidig an Lia fail dlighid fhaithios do ghabhail.

In *English*:

*Unless the fix'd Decrees of Fate give way,  
The Scots shall govern, and the Scepter sway,  
Where're this STONE they find, and its dread Sound obey.*

When the *Scythians* were informed of the solemn Virtue of this Stone, *Fergus* the Great, the Son of *Earca*, having subdued the Kingdom of *Scotland*, resolv'd to be crowned upon it; for that purpose he sent his Messengers to his Brother *Mortough* (the Son of *Earca* a Descendent from *Heremon*) who was King of *Ireland* at that time, to desire that he would send him that Stone, to make his Coronation the more solemn, and to perpetuate the Succession in his Family. His Brother willingly complied with his Request; the Stone was sent, and *Fergus* received the Crown of *Scotland* upon it. This Prince was the first Monarch of *Scotland*, of the *Scythian* or *Gadelian* Race; and tho' some of the *Picts* had

the Title of Kings of *Scotland*, yet they were no more than tributary Princes to the Kings of *Ireland*, from the Reign of *Heremon*, who expelled them the Kingdom of *Ireland*, and forc'd them into *Scotland*, where they settled. *Fergus* therefore was the first absolute Monarch of *Scotland*, who acknowledged no foreign Yoke, nor paid any Homage to any foreign Prince. This *Stone of Destiny* was preserved with great Veneration and Esteem, in the Abby of *Scone*, till *Edward* the First of *England* carried it away by Violence, and plac'd it under the Coronation Chair in *Westminster* Abby, by which means the Prophecy that attended it seems to be accomplish'd; for the Royal Family of the *STUARTS* succeeded to the Throne of *England* soon after the Removal of this Stone, a Family that descended lineally from the *Scythian* Race, from *Maine Leambna*, Son of *Corc* King of *Munster*, Son of *Luighdheach*, Son of *Oilioll Flanbeg*, Son of *Fiacha Muilleathan*, King of *Munster*, Son of *Eogan Mor*, Son of *Oilioll Olum* King of *Munster*, who descended lineally from *Heberus Fionn* Son of *Milefius* King of *Spain*, every Prince of which illustrious Family successively received the Crown upon this Stone.

The second valuable Monument of Antiquity, that the *Tuatha de Danans* brought away from the *Danes*, and carried with them into *Ireland*, was the *Sword* which *Luighbaidh Lambfhada*, that is, the *Long-handed*, used in Battle, which they conveyed from the City *Gorias*. The third Curiosity was a *Spear* which the same Prince used to fight with, it was lodg'd in the City *Finias*, but removed by these Necromancers into *Ireland*; the fourth was a Caldron called *Coire an Daghdha*, that was carried off from the City *Murias*. These Transactions are recorded in a Poem to be found in the Book of *Invasions*; the Verses are these:

---

*The Tuatha de Danans*

By Force of potent Spells and wicked Magick,  
And Conjurations horrible to hear,  
Could set the Ministers of Hell at work,  
And raise a slaughter'd Army from the Earth  
And make them live and breath and fight again.  
Few could their Arts withstand, or Charms unbind.  
These Sorcerers long time in Greece had felt  
The Smart of Slavery, till sore oppress'd,  
And brought in Bondage, the bold Jarbhanel,

*Son of Nemedius, Son of Adnomhoin,  
 Resolv'd no longer to endure the Yoke  
 Of Servitude, a Fleet prepared, and wandring  
 Long time from Sea to Sea, at length arriv'd  
 With all his Followers on the Coasts of Norway.  
 The kind Norwegians received the Strangers,  
 And hospitably lodg'd them from the Cold;  
 But when they saw their Necromantick Art,  
 How they had Fiends and Spectres at Command,  
 And from the Tombs could call the stalking Ghosts,  
 And mutter Words, and summon hideous Forms  
 From Hell, and from the Bottom of the Deep:  
 They thought them Gods, and not of mortal Race,  
 And gave them Cities, and ador'd their Learning,  
 And beg'd them to communicate their Art,  
 And teach the Danish Youth their Mysteries.  
 The Towns, wherein they taught their Magick Skill,  
 Were Falias, Finias, Murias, Gorias;  
 Four Men well read in hellish Wickedness,  
 Moirrhias the Chief, a Wizard of Renown,  
 And subtle Erus, Arias skill'd in Charms,  
 And Semias fam'd for Spells, these four presided  
 In the four Towns to educate the Youth.  
 At length these strolling Necromancers sail'd  
 From Norway, and landed on the Northern Shore  
 Of Scotland; but perfidiously convey'd  
 Four Monuments of choice Antiquity  
 From the four Cities given them by the Danes;  
 From Falias the Stone of Destiny  
 From Gorias they brought the well try'd Sword  
 Of Luighaidh, from Finias a Spear,  
 From Murias a Caldron.*

The *Tuatha de Danans* continued seven Years in the  
 North of Scotland, and then they removed to Ireland;  
 they arriv'd there upon the first Monday in the Month  
 of May, and immediately they set fire to their Ship-  
 ping, as the Poet observes in this manner.

*They land upon the Shore, and then they burn  
 Their Ships, resolving never to return.*

When they came upon the Coast they had Recourse to  
 their Inchantments to screen them from the Observation  
 of the Inhabitants; and accordingly by their Magick  
 Skill they formed a Mist about them for three Days and  
 three Nights, and in this undiscerned manner they  
 marched

marched thro' the Country, without being discovered by the *Firbolgs*, till they came to a Place called *Slabh an Jaruin*, from whence they dispatched Embassadors to *Eochaidh* Son of *Eirc*, and to the Nobility of the *Firbolgs* to demand the Kingdom, or challenge them to a decisive Battel. This audacious Summons surpris'd the King, who immediately rais'd an Army, and with all the Forces of his Country he advanced to give them Battel. This Prince and his Soldiery engaged with great Bravery against the *Tuatha de Danans*, and the Fight was bloody and desperate on both sides; but the *Firbolgs* unable to withstand the Enchantments of their Enemies were at last defeated with the Loss of ten thousand, or, as other Histories with more Probability inform us, of an hundred thousand upon the Spot. It was the Distance of thirty Years between the Battel of South Muighe Tuirreadh, and the Battel of North Muighe Tuirreadh, as the Poet computes in these Verses:

*Since the sharp Fight at South Muighe Tuirreadh  
To the Battle fought at North Muighe Tuirreadh  
Where Ballar the great General was slain,  
Was thirty Years.*

Some of the Antiquaries of Ireland are of opinion that the *Tuatha de Danans* were so called because they were Descendents from the three Sons of *Danan* the Daughter of *Dealbair*, Son of *Ealathan*, Son of *Neid*. The Names of these Brothers were *Bryan*, *Juchor* and *Juchorba*; Their Grandfather was *Dealbair*, Son of *Ealathan*, Son of *Neid*, Son of *Jendair*, Son of *Allan*, Son of *Tait*, Son of *Tabbairn*, Son of *Eana*, Son of *Bair*, Son of *Ibair*, Son of *Jarbhair*, Son of *Nemadus*. This Colony of People were called *Tuatha de Danans*, as they were the Posterity of the three Sons of *Danan*, who were so expert in the Black Art, and the Mystery of Charms and Enchantments, that the Inhabitants of the Country where they lived, distinguish'd them by the Name of *Gods*, as appears from an old Poem that begins thus *Eisdig a Eolacha gan on*, &c. where in these three Brothers are stil'd Deities: The Lines are these.

*The Tuatha de Danans had their Name  
From the three Brothers, Bryan, Juchorba  
And Juchor, slain by Logha Son of Eithlean.*

1r o Danan  
Cedhna na-  
ticep da  
dis Danan  
3 luacg de-  
agab an  
dearimian.  
From *Danan* the Mother of these Brothers the two Hills at *Luachair Dheagha* in *Desmond* were called *da Chidh Danan*.

There is another Opinion among our learned Antiquaries that the *Tuatha de Danans* were so called because they were divided into three Tribes, the first was known by the Name of *Tuatha*, and consisted of the Nobility and the principal Leaders of the Colony; for *Tuatha* signifies a *Lord* or a *Commander*; and from hence it was that the two beautiful Women *Beachoil* and *Danan* were called *Bantuathachs*, that is, Ladies, as the Poet remarks in this manner.

*Beachoil and Danan, whose Charms divine  
In every Air and every Feature shine,  
Were Ladies deeply vers'd in Magick Skill,  
But by Decree of Fate untimely fell.*

Onaoite cu-  
ata de Da-  
nan.  
The second Tribe of the *Tuatha de Danans* were called *Dee*, that is, *Gods*; these were Druids or Priests. The third Tribe were stiled *Dee Danans*, that is, *Gods of Danan*; they chiefly applied to the Study of Poetry, and the Art of composing Verses; for *Dan* signifies *Art*, and likewise a *Poem* or *Song*. The three Sons of *Danan*, *Bryen*, *Juchor* and *Juchorba* were called *Gods* from their surprising Performances in the *Black Art*, and they had the Name also of *Tuatha de Danans*, because they were the chief Lords and Commanders of the whole Colony.





The GENEALOGY of some of the Principal Nobility of the Tuatha de Danans.

THE Family of *Eochaidh Ollamb* were descended from *Daghdha*, *Ogma*, *Alloid*, *Breas* and *Dealbhaoith* the five Sons of *Enlathan*, Son of *Neid*, Son of *Jondaoi*, Son of *Allaoi*, Son of *Tait*, Son of *Tabhairn*, Son of *Eana*, Son of *Bathath*, Son of *Jobbath*, Son of *Beothaidh*, Son of *Jarbhainel Faidh*, Son of *Nemedius*, Son of *Adnamain* and *Mananan*, Son of *Alloid*, Son of *Dealbhaoith*. The six Sons of *Dealbhaoith* were *Ogmba*, *Fiacha*, *Ollamb*, *Jondaoi*, *Bryan*, *Juchor* and *Juchorba*. *Aongus*, *Hugh*, *Cearmad* and *Midhir* were the four Sons of *Daghdha*. *Lughaidh* the Son of *Cein*, Son of *Dianceacht*, Son of *Easaraig*, Son of *Neid*, Sons of *Jondaoi Gabhneoin*; also *Ceidne*, *Dianceacht* and *Luchtaine Cairbry* the famous Poet, Son of *Taro*, Son of *Turril*. *Bitbro* Son of *Carbrie*, *Caitchean*, Son of *Tabhairn*, *Fiacha* Son of *Dealbhaoith*, and his Son *Ollamb* Son of *Fiacha Caicer*. *Neachtain* Son of *Mamanth*, Son of *Echoaidh Garbh*, Son of *Duach Doill*, *Siodhmall* Son of *Cairbre Crom*, Son of *Ealcmbuir*, Son of *Dealbhaoith*. *Eire Fodbla* and *Banba* were the three Daughters of *Fiacha*, Son of *Dealbhaoith*, Son of *Ogma*, and *Emin* the Daughter of *Eadarlamb* was the Mother of these three Sisters. Their Female Deities were *Badhbha*, *Macha*, and *Moriogan*. Their Ladies of Beauty and Quality were *Danan* and *Beockuill*; *Bridhid* was a Poetess of Note. They had two eminent Princes *Fea* and *Mean*, who gave the Name to *Magh Feidhmbuin* in *Munster*: they possessed *Triathre Torc*, from whence *Tristbirne* in *Munster* was so called; they defeated the *African* Pyrates in the Battle of North *Muighe Tuirreadh*; and routed the *Firbolgs* in South *Muighe Tuirreadh*; In the first of these Engagements *Nuagau* had his Hand cut off, in the latter he lost his Head.



*An ACCOUNT of the KINGS of the  
Tuatha de Danans, and the time of their  
Reign.*

**N**UADHA AIRGIODLAMH, or the *Silver-banded*, the Son of *Eachtach*, Son of *Eadarlamb*, Son of *Ordan*, Son of *Allai*, Son of *Tait*, Son of *Tabbran*, Son of *Eana*, Son of *Baath*, Son of *Jobbath*, Son of *Beothach*, Son of *Jarbhainel Faidh*, Son of *Nemedius*, Son of *Adnamain*, reigned King of Ireland thirty Years, and was slain by *Ealadb*, Son of *Dealbhaoith*, and by *Ballar na Neid* in the Battle of North Muighe *Tuirreadh*.

BREAS Son of *Ealathan*, Son of *Neid*, Son of *Jondaoi*, Son of *Allai*, Son of *Tabbarn*, Son of *Eana*, Son of *Baath*, Son of *Ibath*, Son of *Beothach*, Son of *Jarbhainel Faidh*, Son of *Nemedius* succeeded and reigned seven Years.

luighaidh  
fada mde  
sem do or  
bung donac  
Taillean d  
ccuy.

LUIGHAIDH LAMFHADHA, or, the *Long-banded*, was his Succesor; he was the Son of *Cein*, Son of *Dian-ceatch*, Son of *Eachtairgbreac*, Son of *Neid*, Son of *Jondaoi*, Son of *Allai*, and his Reign continued forty Years. This Prince first ordained the Assembly of *Taillean*, in Honour to the Memory of *Tailte* the Daughter of *Magh Mor* King of *Spain*. She was Wife to *Eochaidh*, Son of *Eirc*, the late King of the *Firbolgs*, and was afterwards married to *Duach Doil* a great General of that Colony; she took care of the Education of this *Luighaidh* in his Minority, and had him instructed in the Maxims of Government: In Gratitude for the Favours he had received from the Care and Tuition of this Lady, he instituted the Assembly of *Taillean*, and appointed Tilts and Tournaments as a Tribute to her Memory. These warlike Exercises resembled the old *Olympick* Games, and they were observed upon the first of *August* every Year, a Day which is still distinguish'd by the Name of *Lughnasa* from this *Lughaidh* King of Ireland.

(l'age  
deur la-  
cuf amr  
olimpique.

DAGHDHA the Great succeeded, he was the Son of *Ealathan*, Son of *Dealbhaoith*, Son of *Neid*, Son of *Jondaoi*, Son of *Allai*, Son of *Tait*, Son of *Tabairn*, Son of *Eana*, Son of *Baath*, Son of *Jobbath*, Son of *Beothach*, Son of *Jarbhaniel Faidh*, Son of *Nemedius*; his Reign was seventy Years.

DEALB-

DEALBHAOITH the Son of Oghmhagrian Eigis, Son of Ealathan, Son of Dealbhoath, Son of Neid, Son of Jondaoi, Son of Allai, Son of Tait, Son of Tabairn, Son of Eana, Son of Baath, Son of Jobbath, Son of Beothach, Son of Jarbhaniel Faith, Son of Nemedius, reigned next; he was King of Ireland ten Years.

FIACHADH succeeded; he was the Son of Dealbhoath, the Son of Ealathan, Son of Dealbhoath, Son of Neid, Son of Jondaoi, Son of Allai, Son of Tait, Son of Tabhairn, Son of Eana, Son of Baath, Son of Jobbath, Son of Beothach, Son of Jarbhaniel, Son of Nemedius; he sat upon the Throne ten Years, and was slain by one Eogan at a place called *Ard Breac*.

MACUILL, MACEACHT and MAC GREINE the three Sons of Cearmada Mirbheol, the Son of Dagbha succeeded. These Princes reigned thirty Years, and some of the Irish Antiquaries imagine that the Island was divided between the three Brothers into three equal parts, they depended upon the Authority of an old Poet, who says

*Three Brothers Macuill, Maceacht and Mac Greine  
Divided equally the Isle between them.*

But this appears to be a Mistake; for the Kingdom of Ireland was never thus divided: These three Princes I confess, ruled alternately, one every Year, which seems to give occasion for this Opinion. The reason why they were called *Macuill*, *Maceacht*, and *Mac Greine* was, because the Idols they severally worshiped were distinguish'd by these Names. *Macuill* adored for his Deity *Cuill*, that is, a Log of Wood; *Maceacht* worshiped *Cecht*, in English, a Plough-share; and *Mac Greine* chose *Grian* for his God, which signifies the Sun. But the proper Names of these Princes were *Eathoir*, *Teathoir* and *Ceathoir*. *Eathoir* or *Maceacht* had *Banba* for his Wife; *Teathoir* or *Macuill* was married to *Fodbla*; and *Ceathoir*, who was called *Mac Greine* was the Husband of *Eire*. The right Name likewise of *Oirbhson* was *Mananan*; from him *Loch Oirbhson* was so called, because when his Grave was digging the Lake broke out, as the Poet thus observes.

Eathoir

*A fierce, a cruel, but a warlike Prince*

*Paid Homage to a Log; his Wife was Banba;*

1

o Oirbhson  
naiseon lot  
Oirbhson.

*Brave*



*Brave Teathoir the charming Fodla chose,  
A Hero wife and valiant, but adored  
A rusty Plough-share for his God; his Brother  
Was Ceathoir, generous and bold; his Queen  
Was the fair Eire, and his God the Sun.  
Oirbhíon properly was Mananan called,  
From him Loch Oirbhíon received a Name.*

Do neyn  
Prædæat  
cætyl.

The Psalter of *Cassiel* computes the whole time that the *Tuatha de Danans* continued in *Ireland* to be a hundred and ninety seven Years, as the Poet expresses it thus,

*A hundred and ninety seven Tears complete,  
The Tuatha de Danans, a famous Colony,  
The Irish Scepter sway'd.*





T H E  
O R I G I N A L  
O F T H E  
M I L E S I A N S,  
W I T H A

Succinct A c c o u n t of their Travels, Ge-  
nealogies and Adventures,

From *Feniusa Farsa* King of *Scythia*, till  
the time of their first Invasion of I R E -  
L A N D.



N order to observe a Method and Regu-  
larity in describing the Original of the  
*Scythians*; I am to take notice that they were  
the Posterity of *Japhet* the Son of *Noah*;  
*Moses* in settling the Genealogy of the Pa-  
triarchs in the tenth Chapter of the Book of *Genesis*,  
makes mention of two Sons of *Japhet*, *Gomer* and *Ma-*  
*gog*. *Gomer*, he says, had three Sons, *Asbkenaz*, *Ri-*  
*phath* and *Togarmah*, but the sacred Penman gives no  
Account of the Sons of *Magog*, who was the great An-  
cestor of the *Scythian* Nation. It is the Business of this  
History therefore, to be as particular as may be, in trac-  
ing

Leabhar dhroma  
ma gneada.

ing the lineal Descendents of this Son of *Japhet*, which I find recorded in the Book of *Invasions*, upon whose Authority we may depend; for the whole Account is faithfully collected and transcribed from the most valuable and authentick Chronicles of the *Irish* Affairs, particularly from that choice Volume called *Leabhar dhroma Sneachta*, or, the *White Book*, that was written before St. *Patrick* first arrived in *Ireland*, to propagate Christianity in that Country.

Partolan  
ceadgabala  
nae Cipion  
deir dilioh.

We are informed then by this ancient Manuscript, that *Magog* had three Sons, their Names were *Baath*, *Jobbath* and *Fathochta*, from *Baath* descended *Fenusfa Farsa*, King of *Scythia*, who was the Founder of the *Gadeliens*. The Posterity of *Jobbath* were the *Amazons*, the *Bactrians* and *Parthians*. *Fathochta* was the Ancestor of *Partholanus*, who first settled a Colony in *Ireland* after the Flood. *Numedius* the *Firbolgs* and *Tuatha de Danans*, the *Longobardians*, the *Hunns*, *Goths* and many other Nations descended from *Magog*, and came originally out of *Scythia*. *Ayla* who called himself the Scourge of God and the Terror of the World, was likewise of the Posterity of *Magog*. This warlike *Scythian* conquered *Pannonia*, and troubled the *Roman* Empire for many Years, he overran *Italy*, and fought with great Bravery against the *Germans*. *Peliorbes* the King of the *Hunns* was a *Scythian*, who made War upon *Justinian* the *Roman* Emperor; the Inhabitants of *Daunia*, a part of the Country of *Apulia* owe their Original to the *Scythians*, as do the greatest Number of the People in the *Turkish* Empire.

Caddile a-  
naif Apulia

do timead  
Eaduibolan-  
yo.

*Epiphanius* is of opinion that the *Scythian* Monarchy began soon after the Flood, and continued to the Captivity of *Babylon*; he says farther that the Laws, Customs, and Manners of the *Scythians* were received by other Nations as the Standards of Policy, Civility and polite Learning, and that they were the first after the Flood who attempted to reform Mankind into Notions of Courtesy, into the Art of Government, and the Practice of good Manners. *Johannes Boemus* in the ninth Chapter of his second Volume, where he treats of the Laws and Customs of all Nations, remarks that the *Scythians* were never corrupted by the rude and savage Behaviour of any foreign Nation; and *Josephus* observes, that the *Grecians* call the *Scythians* by the Name of *Magogoi* because they were the Descendents of *Magog*.



It is the Observation of *Johannes Naclerus* that the *Scythians* were always famous for worthy and heroic Acts, and that Historians when they speak of them, give them the Character of a brave and generous People. *Herodotus* in his fourth Book tells us that *Darius* the powerful King of *Persia* was expelled by the *Scythians* out of their Country with Infamy and Disgrace; and this is confirm'd by *Justin* the Abreviator of *Trogus*, <sup>Ἰστορικὸν</sup> <sup>ἑκ μόνου</sup> <sup>ἐκ τῆς ἑαυτοῦ</sup> who enlarging upon the military Exploits of the *Scythian* Nation, gives this glorious Account of them. *Scythæ ipsi perpetuò ab alieno imperio aut intacti aut invicti manserunt*; *Darium regem Persarum turpi ab Scythiâ summo-verunt fugâ*; *Cyrum cum omni exercitu trucidarunt*; *Alexandri magni ducem Zopyrona pari ratione cum copiis universis deleverunt*; *Romanorum audire sed non sentire Arma*. The *Scythians* were either always free from the Attempts of any other Nation, or came off Conquerors when they were attack'd. They drove *Darius* the Persian King out of *Scythia*, who was glad to save himself by a cowardly and ignominious Flight. They killed *Cyrus* and his whole Army. They fought with the same Success against *Zopyron* one of *Alexander's* Generals, and destroyed him and all his Forces. <sup>ἑκ τῆς ἑαυτοῦ</sup> <sup>ἑκ τῆς ἑαυτοῦ</sup> They had heard indeed of the Arms of the Romans but never felt them. A Character that no other People of the World so eminently deserv'd, and which we have no reason to suspect of Partiality, as it came from an Author who was a *Roman*, who seldom bestows too large Encomiums upon the military Exploits of any foreign or barbarous Nation.

The Author of the *Polichronicon* in the thirty seventh Chapter of his first Book informs us that the Posterity of *Gadelas* were called *Scythi* or *Scythians*; the Word *Scythi*, he says, is derived from *Scut*, and it is certain that the *Milesians* may with equal Propriety be called *Scythians* from the Word *Scut*, as the old *English* in *Ire-* <sup>on Scutia</sup> <sup>ἐκ τῆς</sup> *land* are stil'd *Goill* from *Gallia*, which is the Country from whence they were originally descended. So that <sup>ἑκ τῆς ἑαυτοῦ</sup> <sup>ἑκ τῆς ἑαυτοῦ</sup> the *Gadelians* may, with the same right be called *Scythians* from *Scythia*, as the old *English* are called *Goill* from the Country of *Gaul* from whence they came.

These Observations which I have collected from the learned Manuscripts and Annals of our own Nation, and from the Authority of foreign Historians, make it evident, I presume, that the *Gadelians*, and by Consequence the *Milesians*, are properly distinguish'd by the

Name of *Scythians*, as they owe their Original to those illustrious People, and are Descendents from a Nation so famous for Civility, for good Laws and good Government; and their Posterity the *Gadelians* always approved themselves worthy of so brave Ancestors; for they retained the same Love for Politeness, for Learning and learned Men, they fought valiantly in the Field, were faithful Allies, peaceable to their Neighbours, but severe Revengers of broken Leagues and abused Faith. Their Monarchy continued in *Ireland* under eighty one absolute Kings of their own Blood, and of the *Gadelian* Family, not to mention a great Number of their Provincial Princes, and other illustrious Nobility, by which they may justly claim a Relation to the warlike, the civilized and learned *Scythians*, who make such a Figure in History, and are justly esteemed the Standards of Probity, Bravery and Honour throughout the World.

Do ylioꝝ  
Niul do  
Eonēd eih  
Seuit.

Nor are we to forget in this place that the Posterity of *Niul* the Son of *Feniusa Farsa* were generally called *Scythians*. This *Niul* was the second Son of *Feniusa Farsa*, and had no share of the Government allowed him by his Father or his elder Brother who succeeded. He was sent abroad with a numerous Attendance to travel into foreign Parts, and when he came near the Borders of *Egypt*, he order'd his People, whom he design'd to settle as a Colony in some convenient Country, not to forget that they were the Natives of *Scythia*, that they should distinguish themselves by the Name of *Scuit* or *Scots*, that their Posterity might be ever mindful of their Original, and glory in being Descendents of the *Scythian* Nation. This young Prince had no other Portion given him by his Father, but the Privelege of travelling and the Benefit of the publick Schools, and to improve himself in the seventy two learned Languages, for *Feniusa Farsa* left his Monarchy intire to *Neanul* his eldest Son.

an Seol to-  
100000.



*A particular Account of the Original of the  
Gadelenians, and of their Adventures till  
they invaded I R E L A N D.*

**T**Here are some of the *Latin* Authors who imagine that *Gadelas* was the Son of *Argos* or *Cecrops*, who was King of the *Argivi*, that is, the *Grecians*, called in the old *Irish* *Gaidheal*; but this must be a Mistake, because *St. Austin* informs us that the Family of *Cecrops* began about the time that *Jacob* was born, which was about four hundred and thirty two Years after the Deluge; and the same Father allows the Crown to continue in that Line but two hundred and fifteen Years, by which Computation it follows, that about six hundred and sixty seven Years after the Flood, the Government was removed out of their Family, and their Monarchy expired. So that it is impossible that *Gadelas* should be the Son of *Argos* or *Cecrops*, because *Hector Boetius* in his History of *Scotland* says that the *Gadelians* were in *Egypt* when *Moses* was working Wonders in that Country for the Delivery of the *Israelites*, and the Book of the *Irish Invasions* agrees with that Computation.

The Book of *Invasions* gives an Account that about this time *Gadelas* was born; he was the Son of *Niul*, Son of *Feniusa Farsa*, King of *Scythia*, Son of *Baath*, Son of *Magag*, his Mother was *Scota* the Daughter of *Pharaoh Cingris* King of *Egypt*. *Moses* began to govern the *Israelites* in *Egypt* about seven hundred ninety seven Years after the Deluge, and according to that Computation there were about three hundred and fifty five Years from the Reign of *Cecrops* till *Gadelas* was born, so that it was impossible for *Gadelas* to be a Son of *Cecrops*.

Other Authors are fond of insisting that the *Gadelians* came from *Greece* into *Scythia*, and from thence they travelled by Land into *Egypt*; These Writers are of opinion that the Word *Scythia* is as much as to say *Jaith Sgeach* or *Sceachach*, which they suppose signifies Land; but upon comparing the Word *Scythia* in the Pronunciation with either of these, especially the last Letters of it we shall find there is no manner of Analogy in the Sound between *th*, *dh*, *th*, or *ch* and *ia*, which

are the last Letters of the Word *Scythia*. This Mistake arises from a profound Ignorance of some Authors to the *Irish* Language and the Forwardness of others to guess and deliver their Sentiments about what it is impossible they should understand. They will have it that the *Gadelians* must come originally out of *Greece*, because the Solemnity of the *Gadelian* Triumphs, their Sports, Tilts and Tournaments, and many other of their Customs, bear a very near Resemblance to the Practice of the *Grecians*; from whence they unadvisedly conclude, that the *Gadelians* were originally Natives of *Greece*; but this Similitude of Manners and Customs will be soon accounted for, if we consider that the several Invaders of *Ireland* after the Deluge, except *Nemedius* and the *Milesians*, took *Greece* in their way to *Ireland*, and resided there for some time. *Partholanus*, we have observed, came out of *Midonia*, supposed to be *Macedonia* in *Greece*; the *Firbolgs* set out from *Thracia*, and the *Tuatha de Danans* from *Achaia* near *Beotia* and the City of *Thebes*. So that those Invaders who either came out of *Greece*, or travelled thro' part of it in their way to *Ireland*, may be supposed to retain some of the Manners and Usages of that Country; and we may presume the *Gadelians*, when they came to *Ireland*, learnt of the Inhabitants they found there, some of those Customs which the Followers of *Partholanus*, or the Colony of the *Firbolgs* had introduced into the Island. But to assert positively that the *Gadelians* were originally descended from the *Greeks*, is what has no Foundation in History, nor the Authority of any faithful Writer to support it: It is a mere Conjecture, built only upon a distant Resemblance of certain Sports and Exercises between the *Greeks* and the *Gadelians*, which we have very easily accounted for. It seems strange that any Person should attempt to write the History of a Nation whose Language he is unacquainted with, and who can come at no more Knowledge of its Antiquity, than he receives thro' the corrupted Chancel of Tradition, or the Relation of foreign Authors. The *Irish* Tongue is obscure and difficult to be understood, and the Natives of *Ireland* who speak it properly enough, can hardly attain the Knowledge of its Characters, especially to read, and perfectly become acquainted with the ancient Records; which ought to discourage a Foreigner from writing about the Origin of the *Irish* Nation, and likewise to render

bua eor-  
inil le sne-  
gacail noif  
beay a agur  
clithe Ga-  
oibiol do  
nein brygge  
ne fenchur.

ugbar gan  
banam  
bananaca.

der a faithful Translation of the *Irish* Manuscripts the more valuable in the Opinion of every one who bears any Regard to the genuine Antiquities of that Kingdom.

*A full Account of the most illustrious Feniufa Farfa, Grandfather of Gadelas, till his Return from Magh Seanoir; with the Particulars of his Death.*

THE great *Feniufa Farfa*, King of the *Scythian* Nation, was a Prince who applied himself to the Study of Letters, and made it his Business to understand the several Languages of the World, which began from the general Confusion of Tongues at the Tower of *Babel*; From the time of *Adam* till the building of that Tower, there was but one universal Language, which the ancient Chronicles of *Ireland* call *Gartigarran*, which signifies the *Human Tongue*. But when *Nimrod* and his profane Confederates attempted to erect that Structure, Providence thought fit to interpose and put a Stop to the Undertaking, by perplexing the Workmen with a Diversity of Speech, and confounding them with strange Languages, which effectually hinder'd their Design, and prevented the finishing of the Building: But the Wisdom of God thought fit to preserve the genuine and original Language, which was the *Hebrew*, in the Family of *Heber*, from whom it was called the *Hebrew Tongue*. This good Man being inform'd of the wicked Attempts of *Nimrod* and his Accomplices, and that they propos'd by erecting a Tower to secure themselves from a second Deluge, which they apprehended would again overflow the World, oppos'd their Design, and refused to assist them in raising the Structure; he told them it was a vain and audacious Enterprize, carried on in Defiance of Heaven, whose Decrees it was impossible to withstand or disappoint. But this Remonstrance made no Impression upon the Projectors, who thought to raise their Tower to a Height which the Waters could never reach, and by that means secure themselves and their Families from the Danger of another Flood. But a Confusion of Language broke all their Measures, and the faithful *Heber* for his Piety was rewarded with a Continuance



~  
Cibien mae  
Saille 76

of the original Speech in his own Family, who preserv'd it uncorrupt, and in its native Purity delivered it to Posterity.

Do bi sein-  
ura fãna  
ponmanbeit  
fãglumta  
an rna hñle  
beapla.

*Feniusa Farsa*, the *Scythian* Monarch, desirous to attain the Knowledge of the *Hebrew* Tongue, and to have it taught in the public Schools which he designed to erect, resolved to go in Person to *Magh Seanair*, which was near the Place where the *Hebrew* was the common Language of the Inhabitants. After the Confusion at *Babel*, it is supposed there arose seventy two different Tongues; which this *Scythian* Prince design'd if possible to be Master of; for this end he dispatched seventy two Persons of Learning, with a Number, in case of Mortality, to supply their places, to the several parts of the known World, and commanded them to continue abroad for seven Years, that each of them might be perfectly acquainted with the Language of the Country where he chanc'd to reside; then they were to return to *Scythia*, and instruct the Youth in the several Languages. Upon the Return of these learned Linguists into *Scythia*, *Feniusa Farsa* began his Journey to *Magh Seanair*, and left the Government of the Kingdom in his Absence to *Nenuall* his eldest Son; as the Poet informs us in his Poem that begins thus, *Canoimb Bunadhus na ngaoidbiol*, &c.

Do éuati  
femioya go  
Mae Se-  
nair.

*One was at first the Language of Mankind,  
Till haughty Nimrod with Presumption blind,  
Proud Babel built; then with Confusion struck  
Seventy two diff'rent Tongues the Workmen spoke;  
These Languages the Scythian Monarch strove  
To learn, and in his Schools his Youth improve.*

It was sixty Years from the building of the Tower of *Babel*, till *Feniusa Farsa* set out from the North, from his Country of *Scythia*, and arrived at *Magh Seanair*, and there began his Schools for the universal Languages. This Computation we receive from Chronicles of great Antiquity, and the Poet agrees with it in the following Verses.

*From the Confusion at the Tower of Babel  
Till Feniusa Farsa from the North  
Arrived, was sixty Years.*



This learned Prince laid the Foundation of an University at *Magh Seanair* near the City called *Athens*, whither he invited the Youth of the adjacent Countries to frequent his Schools in order to attain the Knowledge of the universal Languages, as the Poet observes in these Lines.

*In Magh Seanair after the lofty Tower  
Of Babel was erected; the first School  
At Athens was erected; where the Languages  
Were taught with Care, and the industrious Youth  
Instructed.*

The Persons who had the Care of these Schools were *Cathair na Feniusa Farfa* King of *Scythia*, *Gadel* the Son of *Eathoir*, of the Posterity of *Gomer*, who was a *Grecian*, and *Caobh* *Caoin Chreathach*, who came from *Judea*, and was like- wife called *Jar Mac Neamha*, as the Poet writes in this manner.

*The Tutors who presided in the Schools  
Were Gadel Son of Eathoir, and Jar  
The learned Son of Neamha the Hebrew,  
And Fenius the principal of all.*

Another Poet is of the same Opinion, which he expresses thus:

*The learned Monarch Feniusa Farfa,  
And Gadel, perfect in the foreign Tongues,  
And Caoih, Friend to Truth, first took the Charge  
Of teaching Youth the Languages.*

These three eminent Linguists first invented the Alphabet in the three principal Languages, in *Hebrew*, *Greek* and *Latin*, which they inscribed upon Tables of Wood, as the learned *Cionfhaola* who writ in the time of *St. Columbanus* or *Colum Cill*, justly observed. The same Author says, that *Nion* the Son of *Pelus*, the Son of *Nimrod*, was then the sole Sovereign and Monarch of the Universe; and remarks farther that *Niul*, the second Son of *Feniusa Farfa* was born at *Magh Seanair* about that time, for whose sake *Feniusa* continued twenty Years as the President of the Schools he had erected, that he might have his Son under his immediate

Care, and make him perfect in the universal Languages. It was in the forty second Year of the Reign of *Nion* the Son of *Pelus* (as the Chronicles inform us) that the King of *Scythia* first began to build and establish his Schools at *Magh Seanair*; so that we may suppose continued he at *Magh Seanair* ten Years after the Death of *Nion* the Son of *Pelus*: For all the Writers agree that he presided as a Tutor over those Schools for twenty Years. It likewise appears from the Computation of *Bellarmino* in his Chronicle, that the Schools at *Magh Seanair* were first begun by *Feniusa Farsa*, two hundred and forty two Years after the Flood. The same Author in his Chronicle computes that it was in the Year of the World one thousand eight hundred and fifty, when *Nion* the Son of *Pelus* began his Monarchy, and governed the Nation of the *Hebrews*, which, according to the *Hebrew* Computation, allowed by *Bellarmino*, proves that *Nion* began to reign two hundred Years after the Flood; for from the Creation to the Deluge by the Account of Scripture was one thousand six hundred and fifty six Years, to which we are to add forty and two Years of *Nion's* Reign that were spent before *Feniusa Farsa* King of *Scythia* began his universal Schools; so that by this Calculation it appears, that the Foundation of the Schools was laid two hundred and forty two Years after the Flood, and they were kept open twenty Years, ten Years in the Reign of *Nion*, and ten Years afterwards.

When *Feniusa Farsa* the *Scythian* King had presided twenty Years over the universal Schools he had erected, he returned to *Scythia*, and began to build *Seminaries* of Learning in his own Country; *Gadel* the Son of *Eathur* he ordained President, and commanded him to digest the *Irish* Language into Form and Regulation, and to divide it into five several Dialects. The first was the *Finnan* Dialect which was spoken by the *Militia*, and the Soldiery of the Island; the second was the *poetical*, the third the *historical*, the fourth was the Dialect of the *Physicians*, the fifth was the common Idiom, or the vulgar *Irish* used in general by the People of the Country: This Dialect received its Name from *Gadel* the Master of the Schools, and was called *Gaoidhealg*, that is, *Irish*, and not from *Gadelas*, as others imagine. This *Gadel* the Son of *Eathur* was so highly esteemed by *Niul* the Son of *Feniusa Farsa*, that in respect to him

him he called the young Prince, which he had by *Scota* the Daughter of *Pharaoh Cinecris* by the Name of *Gaodbal* or *Gadelas* as the learned *Ceanfhoelta* mentions in his History.

It is a Question among Authors from whence the Word *Gaodbal* or *Gadelas* is derived: *Becanus* is of Opinion that it comes from *Gaodin* or *Gaothin*, which signifies *Gentle*, and by adding the Syllable *all*, it sounds *Gaodball*, which signifies *all Gentle*. Others imagine that it proceeds from the *Hebrew* Word *Gadal*, which signifies *Great*, because *Gadel* the Son of *Eathur* (who was first called *Gaodbal*, that is, *Gadel*) was a great Proficient in Learning, and in the universal Languages. Our Historians inform us, that he was called *Gaodbal* or *Gadel*, from the *Irish* Word *Gaoith Dil*, which signifies a Lover of Learning; for Learning in *English* in the *Irish* Language is *Gaoith*, and Love is the *English* for the Word *Dil*. The *Grecian* Philosophers explain the Word in the same manner, and by *Gaoith dil* they mean a Lover of Learning.

It is not observed by the *Irish* Chronicles, that *Feniusa Farfa* had any more Children than two Sons, *Nemi-all*, who was the eldest, and *Niull* the younger Brother, as the old Poet remarks.

*The aged Monarch happy in his Sons;  
The learned Niul born near the Tower of Babel,  
And valiant Nenuall by Birth a Scythian.*

When *Feniusa Farfa* had reigned two and twenty Years over the *Scythian* Monarchy, and had returned home from *Magh Seanair*, he fell sick; and when he was near the Point of Death he demised the Kingdom of *Scythia* to *Nenuall* his eldest Son, and left nothing to *Niul* the younger Brother, but the Advantage arising from the publick Schools he had erected, and the Benefit of instructing the Youth of the Country in the learned Languages.



*An Account of the Travels of Niul from  
Scythia into Egypt, and of his Adventures  
till his Death.*

**T**HIS young Prince had employed himself for some time with great Applause in educating the *Scythian* Youth, infomuch that the Fame of his Learning and Accomplishments was carried into distant Countries, till at length it reached the Ears of *Pharaoh Ginceris*, King of *Egypt*. This Monarch was so charm'd with the Report that he had heard, that he immediately dispatched Messengers into *Scythia* to invite *Niul* into *Egypt*, to instruct the Youth of that Country: As the Poet mentions in these Lines;

*The Egyptian Monarch heard of Niul's Fame  
From distant Scythia, and admired his Learning.*

*Niul* accepted of the Invitation, and when he had been in *Egypt* a small time, the King delighted with his Learning, and the Modesty of his Behaviour, bestowed upon him his Daughter *Scota*, a Princess of great Beauty, and gave him the Lands of *Capacirunt*, that lie upon the Coasts of the Red Sea. This is universally allowed by our Chronicles, and observed by the Poet *Giolla Caomhan* in his Poem, which begins thus, *Gaodhal Glas o dtaid Gaoidhil*.

*The Scythian soon comply'd with the Request,<sup>1</sup>  
But when he came, soft Love his Heart possess'd,  
And, for a Reward, he was with charming Scota blest'd.*

Prateq na  
toimnat,  
Salat eai-  
ril, an le-  
adq Gabala,  
7 an 10-  
mad eile  
uqod.

After his Marriage with the Princess, he erected Schools and Seminaries of Learning in *Capacirunt*, and taught the Sciences and the universal Languages to the Youth of *Egypt*. At this time his Wife *Scota* was delivered of a Son, who by the Command of *Niul* was called *Gaodhal*, that is *Gadelas*.

It may seem strange perhaps that *Niul* (who was the fifth Descendent from *Japhet*) should be cotemporary with *Moses*, especially considering that it was the Space of nine hundred and ninety seven Years from the Deluge, till *Moses* took upon him the Command of the *Israelites*

ites; this Difficulty will be answer'd, if we observe that it was not impossible for *Niul* to live some hundred Years; for in those Ages of the World, the Lives of Mankind were very long, as may be proved by the Testimony of Scripture. *Heber* the Son of *Saile*, the fourth Descendent from *Sem*, lived four hundred and sixty four Years, and *Sem* himself lived five hundred Years after his Son *Arphaxad* was born. This Account we find in the eleventh Chapter of the Book of *Genesis*. So that we are not so much to admire that *Niul* should live from the forty second Year of the Reign of *Nion* the Son of *Pelus*, to the time that *Moses* came into *Egypt*: And the Wonder abates still, if we may give Credit to *Marianus Scotus*, who says that it was three hundred and one and thirty Years after the Flood, when the Confusion of Languages happened at the Tower of *Babel*; and we have the Evidence of the most authentick Records to prove that *Niul* was born a considerable time after that Confusion; so that the Age of this Prince is not at all incredible, nor is the Testimony of the *Scottish* Author invalid, who places *Niul* as contemporary with *Moses*. Eisen me Saile.

During the time that *Niul* resided at *Capacirunt* near the Red Sea with his Wife *Scota*, and *Gadelas* his Son, the Children of *Israel*, under the Conduct of *Moses* and *Aaron*, attempted to free themselves from the Slavery of *Egypt*, and incamped near *Capacirunt*: *Niul*, somewhat surpris'd at the Number of those Itinerants, who had fix'd themselves in his Neighbourhood, went himself in Person to make Discoveries, and to know their Business, and to what Nation they belonged. When he came to the Outside of the Camp he met *Aaron*, of whom he inquired the Reason of their Incampment, and the Country they were of. *Aaron* very courteously gave him Satisfaction, and beginning the History of the *Hebrew* Nation, related the several Adventures of that People; he inform'd him of the Bondage they had endured for many Years under the Taskmasters of the *Egyptian* King, and how the God they worshipp'd had worked Wonders and Miracles for their Deliverance, and had punish'd with the most dreadful Judgments the Cruelty of that barbarous Prince. *Niul*, affected with this Relation, immediately offer'd his Friendship and Service to *Aaron*, and ask'd whether he had sufficient Provision for so numerous a People; and if they Major of Ireland 1741. n. del. Nonbntce de do 1745 paro.

they were in any Distress, he promised to furnish him with Corn and all other Necessaries which his Country produced. This generous Act could not but be well received by *Aaron*, who returned him Thanks for his Civility, and took his leave: When he returned to the Camp, he gave Account to *Moses* of the Adventure he had met with, and the kind Offers that were made him by a neighbouring Prince. *Niul* likewise, when he came home, related the History of the *Israelites* to some of the principal of his People, and repeated the Conversation he had with one of their Commanders.

Credidit  
onibil le na-  
tū mine.

It happened that upon the same Night the young Prince *Gadelas*, the Son of *Niul*, had the Misfortune to be bit in the Neck by a Serpent, as he was swimming (some say) in a River; tho' others assert that the Serpent came out of the adjacent Wilderness, and bit him in his Bed. The Venom instantly spread it self thro' his Veins, and poisoned the whole Mass of Blood, so that the Prince languished, and was reduced to the very Brink of Death. This dreadful Accident alarmed *Niul* and his People, who, upon Consultation, resolved to carry the expiring Prince to the Camp of the *Hebrews*, and intreat the Humanity of *Moses* that he would pray for his Recovery to that Almighty God, who had displayed his Power in so wonderful a Manner among the *Egyptians*. *Moses* complied with their Request, and addressed himself fervently to God for the Safety of the young Prince; and laying his Rod that was in his Hand upon the Wound, the Youth immediately recovered, and was perfectly healed, but there remained a green Spot upon the Place where the Bite was. From this green Spot the Prince was afterwards called *Gaodhal Glas*, but by modern Authors *Gadelas*: *Glas* signifies green, and *Gaodhal* (as the Moderns corruptly pronounce it, tho' *Gadel* was the proper Name) being joined with it, is the Reason that he is generally called *Gadelas*; and from this *Gaodhal* or *Gadelas*, the *Irish* are called *Clana Gaodhal*, which is as much as to say the Posterity of *Gaodhal* or *Gadelas*.

Rao madoy  
le Gaodhal

When *Moses* had so miraculously cured this Bite of the Serpent, he prophesied, that wherever that young Prince or his Posterity should inhabit, the Country should never be infested with any venomous Creature. This Prediction is fulfilled in the Island of *Crete*, now called *Candia*, where some of the Descendents of this

Prince



Prince remain to this Day: And it is well known that no poisonous Creature will live in that Island, but they die immediately upon their Arrival as they do in *Ireland*. Some, I confess, are of Opinion, that there were Serpents in *Ireland* till St. Patrick arrived to propagate Christianity in that Country; but this Assertion depends upon the figurative Manner of Expression, which is to be understood of *Devils* or infernal Spirits that may properly be called *Serpents*, and were expelled the Island by the Piety and Preaching of this *Saint*. But we have no Account in our ancient Annals of any *Serpents* in *Ireland* since the Invasion of the Country by the *Gadelians*, and by the universal Silence of our Historians we may with great Reason collect that there were no such Creatures; and as a farther Testimony, we are to observe that the infernal Fiends or the *Devils* are generally called *Serpents* in the Life of *Saint Patrick*.

We have an Account from some Antiquaries that *Moses* locked a Chain he had in his Hand about the Neck of *Gaodhal* or *Gadelas*; and from thence he was called *Gaodhal Glas*, that is, *Gadelas*; for the Word *Glas* by another Termination in the *Irish* Language, signifies in the *English* a *Lock*, and by joining together the Words *Gaodhal Glas*, we come at the Name *Gaodhalglas* or *Gadelas*. In those times every principal and chief Commander wore a rich *Chain* about his Arm, as a Badge of his Office, and a Distinction of his Authority. But as an Evidence that this young Prince had the Syllable *Glas* added to his Name from the Impression of the *Serpent's* Teeth (which occasioned a *green Spot* upon the Wound, in *Irish* called *Glas*) and not from a *Chain* locked about his Neck; I have inserted the following Verses, extracted from the Royal Records of *Tarah*.

*The hissing Serpent, eager of his Prey,  
Ascends the Couch, where sleeping Gadel lay,  
In winding Mazes, then himself he roll'd  
And leap'd upon him in a dreadful Fold,  
And shook his forked Tongue, and then around  
His Neck he twists, and gives a deadly Wound;  
From his black Gums he press'd the killing Foam,  
And from his Mouth the blasting Vapours come.*



*The subtle Poison spreads thro' every Vein,  
No Art, no Juice of Herbs can ease the Pain,  
Till Moses with his never failing Wand,  
Touch'd the raw Wound, which heal'd at his Command,  
But a green Spot the tender Skin distain'd.  
From hence the princely Youth receiv'd his Name,  
And was called Gaodhal Glas.*

}

Other Antiquaries are of Opinion that he was call'd *Gaodhal Glas* or *Gadelas* from the *Brightness* of his Armour, and the Shining of the Weapons he used in the Wars; as the Poet observes in this Manner.

— *This Prince the virtuous Scots bore,  
From the bright Lustre of the Arms he wore  
Called Gaodhal Glas.*

Gaodhal  
Glas o-  
nabrean  
Gadhal.

From this *Gaodhal Glas* or *Gadelas* the *Gadelians* derive their Name, and the *Irish* from him are called *Clanna Gaodhal*; upon this Account an ancient Poet has these Lines.

*From Gadelas the Irish had their Name,  
The Scots from Scots, Feine from Fenius.*

Some of the *Irish* Chronicles assert that the Reason why *Scota* the Mother of *Gadelas* was so called, was, because the Father of *Gadelas* was descended from the *Scythian* Race; among whom it was a Custom to call the Women after their Husband's Names.

Cead Scotsa  
dhro.

It is to be observed that this Princess was a different Person from that *Scota*, who was the Wife of *Golamb*, afterwards called *Milesius* King of *Spain*, by whom he had six Sons; For the Father of *Scota*, the Mother of *Gadelas*, was *Pharaoh Cingris*, King of *Egypt*, who pursued the Children of *Israel*, as they fled from Slavery, and perished in the Red Sea with all his Army; but the Father of that *Scota*, who was the Wife of *Milesius* the King of *Spain*, was the fifteenth King of *Egypt* in Succession from the *Pharaoh* abovementioned, and was distinguish'd by the Name of *Pharaoh Neftonehus*.

When *Niul* had received the Prince his Son in perfect Health by the Prayers of *Moses*, and in Return had supplied the *Israelites* with Provisions, and what was necessary for their Journey; he began to be apprehensive

that his Father in Law would be displeased at the Civility he shewed a People, whom he esteem'd as a Company of Slaves, in a State of Rebellion against his Authority. He communicated his Fears to *Moses*, who <sup>mut 7 Ma-</sup> persuaded him to remove himself and his People, and <sup>or anyo.</sup> accompany him into the *promised Land*, where he should have a Part of the Country assign'd him for his own Support, and the Maintenance of his Followers; or, if he refused this Proposal, he would deliver up the Shipping which belong'd to the Crown of *Egypt* into his Hands, where he might dispose of himself and his Subjects with Safety, till he found how the great God would deal with *Pharaoh*, who resolv'd to pursue the *Hebrews*, and force them back into Slavery. This Motion *Niul* complied with; and accordingly *Moses* dispatch'd a thousand Men well arm'd, who made themselves Masters of the Ships, and delivered them into the Possession of *Niul*, who with all possible Speed went on board with all his People, and stood out to Sea in Expectation of the Event. Upon the next Day the Waters of the Red Sea were divided, and a wonderful Passage made for the *Israelites* to go through; and *Pharaoh*, with the choicest Forces of his Kingdom attempting to follow them, were all drowned. Upon this memorable Transaction an old Poet has these Lines:

*The haughty Monarch with a Heart elate,  
Resolv'd to follow, and to tempt his Fate.  
He rush'd into the Deep, the Waters close,  
And with impetuous Rage his Pride oppose:  
They cover all his Host, and in their Course  
Sweep away sixty thousand Foot, and fifty thousand Horse.*

This Overthrow of the *Egyptians* was brought to pass about seven hundred and ninety seven Years after the Deluge.

*Niul* observing from his Ships that *Pharaoh* and the <sup>clana Niul</sup> *Egyptian* Army were destroyed, resolv'd to return, and <sup>as iamdou-</sup> to fix himself and his People in their former Settlement. He brought his Ships to Land, and went on Shore with all his Followers: After this Enterprize he had many Children, and lived till his Sons were able to bear Arms, and then died, leaving behind him the Character of one of the most learned and valiant Princes of his Age. *Gadelas*, after the Decease of his <sup>as an ro.</sup> Father,

Do gab Sa  
adal glay  
7 a maig  
seanur na  
epiue.

Father, took upon him the Command, and admitted his Mother *Scota* into a Share of the Government, and they reigned together with great Wisdom and Unanimity.

It was observed before, that *Moses* had prophesied, that the Countries, wherever *Gadelas* or any of his Posterity should inhabit, should not be infested with any *poisonous* Creature; and he added likewise this Prediction, that the Posterity of this Prince should encourage the Sciences, and be the constant Patrons of *Poets*, *Philosophers*, *Historians*, and Men of Learning in all Professions. This Account we receive from an ancient Poet in the following Verses to be found in the *Psalter na rann*.

*The holy Prophet was inspir'd, to see  
Into Events of dark Futurity,  
And said, for thee, young Prince, has Heaven in store  
Blessings that Mortals scarce enjoy'd before:  
For wheresoe'er thy Royal Line shall come,  
Fruitful shall be their Land, and safe their Home;  
No poisonous Snake or Serpent shall deface  
The Beauty of the Field, or taint the Grass;  
No noisome Reptile with invenom'd Teeth,  
Nor deadly Insect with infectious Breath,  
Shall ever bloat that Land, or be the Cause of Death;  
But Innocence and Arts shall flourish there,  
And Learning in its lovely Shapes appear;  
The Poets there shall in their Songs proclaim  
Thy glorious Acts, and never dying Name.*

fairtime  
maoly ahyo.

*Gadelas* had a Son born to him in *Egypt*, whom he named *Easru*, he was the Father of *Sru*, who possessed and ruled over the Territory of his Ancestors. The Successor of *Pharaoh Cingcris*, who perished in the Red Sea with his whole Army, was *Pharaoh an Tuir*; he was a Prince of a military Disposition, and recruited the Forces of his Kingdom after that wonderful Overthrow in his Predecessor's Reign. The Kings of *Egypt* were successively called *Pharaohs*, till the time of *Pharaoh Nestonebus*, who was the fifteenth in Succession from *Pharaoh Cingcris*, that possessed the Throne of the *Egyptian* Monarchy.

*An Account of the Expulsion of the Posterity  
of Niul, and his People, out of Egypt, by  
Pharaoh an Tuir.*

**P***Pharaoh an Tuir* upon his Succession to the Crown of Egypt, immediately set himself to repair the Loss sustain'd in the last Reign, and raised a numerous Army, with a Design of Revenge upon the Posterity of *Niul*, and the *Gadelians* for seizing the Shipping, and assisting the *Israelites* with Provisions, when they incamped upon the Borders of the Red Sea; and when he had completed his Forces, he marched towards the Country of *Capacirunt*, and entred it with Fire and Sword. *Walsingham*, in his Book called *Hypodigma*, gives the same Account, where he says, *Egyptius in mari rubro submersis, illi qui superfuerunt, expulerunt a se quendam nobilem Scythicum qui debebat apud eos, ne dominium super eos invaderet; expulsus ille cum Familiâ, pervenit ad Hispaniam, ubi & habitavit annis multis, & Progenies ipsius Familiæ multæ multiplicata est nimis; & inde venerunt in Hiberniam.* The Egyptians being overwhelmed by the Red Sea, those that remained drove out a Scythian Prince, who resided among them, lest he should take Advantage of the Weakness of the Government, and make an Attempt upon the Crown. When he was expelled the Country with all his Followers he came to Spain, where he and his People lived many Years, and became numerous, and from thence they came into Ireland.

We are to observe that this Scythian Prince was *Sru Shu mē Ead* the Son of *Easru*, Son of *Gadelas*, and not *Gadelas* himself, as *Hector Boetius*, and some ignorant English Writers that followed him, take the Freedom to assert; but such Pretenders to History will be of no Authority, when compared with the Testimony of the Irish Chronicles, which affirm positively that *Gadelas* was the Son of *Scota*, the Daughter of *Pharaoh Cingris* King of Egypt, that he remained there his Life-time, and there died. We are informed by the same Records, that this Prince never came out of Greece (as others imagine) but his Father, who was *Niul*, the Son of *Feniusa Farsa* came directly from *Scythia*. Nor is the Account of

I

*Walsingham*

lin *Reffleior* the Son of *Riffil*, the Son of *Nemal*, and King of *Scythia*, and slew him. Their Dissentions continued seven Years, as the old Poet *Giolla Coomban* observes in the Verses following, extracted from the Poem which begins thus: *Gaodhul glas oraid Gaoidhil*.

*For seven long Years the Scythian Wars continued,  
Till Reffleoir (engaging with the valiant Agnon)  
Was slain.*

### The EXPULSION of the Gadelians out of Scythia.

WHEN *Reffleoir*, the King of *Scythia*, was slain, he had two Sons *Nemal* and *Riffil*, who resolved to revenge their Father's Death, and, with a great Army they had raised, to drive the *Gadelians* out of the Country. The *Gadelians*, unable to engage with the *Scythian* Forces, consulted together, and came to a Resolution to leave the Country before they were pressed to a Battel; and accordingly they retired with all possible Speed into the Territories of the *Amazons*, where they continued for the Space of a Year under the Conduct of *Adnoin* and *Heber*, the two Sons of *Tait*, Son of *Agnamon*, Son of *Beogamon*, Son of *Heber Scot*, Son of *Sru*, Son of *Easru*, Son of *Gadelas*.

*Adnoin* had three Sons, whose Names were *Ealloid*, *Lamsbion* and *Lamsbglas*; *Heber* had two Sons *Caicer* and *Cing*; *Adnoin* died. After they had continued for the Space of a Year in that Country, the *Gadelians* set to Sea in three Ships, three-score Persons in each Ship, and every third Person had a Wife. In this Voyage they had six Commanders, and they sailed Westwards, till they came into the narrow Sea, that flows from the Northern Ocean. Here they were surpris'd with a violent Storm that drove them upon an Island called *Caronia* in the *Pontick* Sea: In this Island they stay'd a Year and a quarter, and here *Heber*, the Son of *Tait*, and *Lamsbglas* one of the Sons of *Adnoin* died, and were inter'd with great Pomp and Solemnity, if we consider the



the Rudeness and Simplicity of those Times. The principal Commanders in this Voyage were *Ealloid*, *Lambfionn*, *Cing*, and *Caicer*; they were Persons tolerably experienced in Adventures, and directed their Voyage with great Skill; but they encountered great Difficulties, partly owing to the Inclemency of the Weather, and in some Measure to the Rocks that lay concealed under Water, and made sailing extremely dangerous. Uncertain which Way to steer their Course, they applied themselves to *Caicer* for Advice. This Person was a principal *Druid* among them, and by his prophetick Knowledge informed them, that there was no Country ordained for them to inhabit, till they arrived upon the Coast of a certain Western Isle, (which was *Ireland*) but it was decreed that they should never set Foot in that Country, yet it should be enjoyed by their *Posterity*. It must be understood that a *Druid* signifies a *Priest* and a Person of singular Learning and Wisdom, and the *Gadelians* were always happy in the Attendance of some of these extraordinary Sages in all their Travels and Adventures, till they came to *Ireland*, and afterwards to the Birth of *Christ*, which put an End to their Idolatry and their Pagan *Priesthood*.

The *Gadelians* overaw'd by this Prediction, proceeded in their Voyage, and landed in *Gothland*, where *Lambfion* had a Son of uncommon Wisdom and Courage, who was called *Heber glunnfionn*. In this Country these People continued thirty Years; and some of their *Posterity* are Inhabitants there to this Day, as the learned *Giolla Caomhan* relates in a Poem of his in this Manner.

*The Warlike Sons of the Gadelian Race  
Remain'd among the Goths for thirty Years,  
And there shall some of their Posterity  
Remain till the World's End.*

But we have *Irish* Records of great Authority which contradict this Account, and assert that the *Gadelians* continued in *Gothland* an hundred and fifty Years, and this appears to be the truest Computation; for it is certain that eight Generations of that People died in that Country

Country. The eight successive Descendents from *Heber Glunfionn* to *Bratha* are these: *Bratha* the Son of *Deagbatha*, Son of *Earchada*, Son of *Alloid*, Son of *Nuagatt*, Son of *Nenuaill*, Son of *Eibric*; Son of *Heber Glunfionn*, who was born in *Gothland*, the Son of *Lambfionn*, the principal Commander that conducted the *Gadelians* into that Country; and since it is impossible to think, that the Space of thirty Years could consume eight Generations, the last Computation we must depend upon as the best Authority.

Other Chronicles assert that the *Gadelians* continued in *Gothland* three hundred Years; yet this Account is far from being true, because the Histories of the several Invasions of the Island agree that there were not complete three hundred Years, from the Destruction of *Pharaoh* and his Army in the Red Sea, till the Son of King *Milefius* landed upon the *Irish* Coast. This Computation therefore must be false, because, within that Space of Time it was [that the *Gadelians* finished all their Voyages and Travels, from *Egypt* to *Crete*, from *Crete* to *Scythia*, from *Scythia* to *Gothland*, from *Gothland* to *Spain*, from *Spain* back to *Scythia*, from *Scythia* to *Egypt*, from *Egypt* to *Thrace*, from *Thrace* to *Gothland*, from *Gothland* to *Spain*, and from thence to *Ireland*.

### *The Voyage of the Milesians from Gothland to Spain.*

**B***Ratha*, the Son of *Deagbatha*, the eighth Descendent from *Heber Glunfionn* was the principal Commander in the Voyage, and conducted the *Gadelians* from *Gothland* into *Spain*. He had but four Transports, and disposed twenty four Men and as many Women, and four Mariners in every Ship. The Officers, who commanded under *Bratha* in this Expedition were *Oige*, *Vige*, (the two Sons of *Ealloid*, the Son of *Nianuall*) *Mantan*, and *Caicer*. He sailed from *Gothland*, with *Crete* upon his left Hand, and steered South West of *Europe*, and so landed in *Spain*. The Posterity of *Tubal* the Son of *Japhet* were the Inhabitants of the Country at that time, and with them, the *Gadelians* upon their Arrival, fought many desperate Engagements,

ments, and came off with Victory over the Natives in many Battles. About that Time the Family of *Ealloid* were all swept away, by a dreadful Pestilence, except ten Persons, who increased and multiplied, and in a few Years in great Measure supplied the Loss.

Do rugat  
breogan  
maebnata  
ran yspain.

*Bratha* had a Son born to him in *Spain*, whom he called *Breogan*, and he proved to be a Prince of great Bravery and military Conduct, and with his bold *Gadelians* he engaged the *Spaniards* in many bloody Battles, and always fought with Success. It was he that built *Brigantia* near *Cruine*, and from him the City had the Name of *Bragansa*, as the learned *Giolla Caomban* observes in these Lines:

*The brave Breogan chased the Spanish Troops,  
Followed by Victory wherever he fought,  
And raised the City of Brigantia.*

Clan bre-  
ogan.

This warlike Prince had ten Sons, their Names were *Cuailgne*, *Cuala*, *Blath*, *Aibhle*, *Nar*, *Breagha*, *Fuad*, *Muirtheimbne*, *Ith* and *Bille*, as the same Author mentions in this manner:

*Ten were the Sons of Breogan, their Names  
Breagha, Fuad, Muirtheimbne, Cuala,  
Cuailgne, Blath, Aibhle, Nar, Ith, and Bille.*

The famous *Gallamb*, who was called *Milesius* of *Spain*, was the Son of *Bille*, Son of *Breogan*, who tho' he be the last named of all the Brothers, yet the most authentick Records of the Kingdom allow him to be the eldest Son. The Family of *Breogan* obtained such a Character among the *Spaniards*, that by the Assistance of their hardy *Gadelians*, they almost made a Conquest of the whole Country, and obtained some of the principal Offices in the Government. The young Prince *Gallamb*, was the Son of *Bille*, and after he had fought with great Bravery in many Engagements against the Natives, he resolved to undertake a Voyage to *Scythia*, to visit his Royal Relations in that Country. Accordingly he fitted out thirty Ships, and when he had furnished his Fleet with sufficient Necessaries and Provisions, he man'd it with the stoutest of the *Gadelian* Troops, and weighed Anchor. He steered his Course thro' the Western Sea, till he came into the  
*Mediterranean*

*Mediterranean*, and passing by *Sicily* and *Crete* he sailed Northwards, thro' the *Ægean* into the *Euxine* Sea, and so entering the River *Tanais*, he landed in *Scythia*. He immediately dispatched a Courier to the *Scythian* Court, to give notice to *Riffleoir* the King of his Arrival. This Prince was related to *Riffleoir*, the Son of *Riffil* above mentioned. The King of *Scythia* received this Visit with great Civility, and by his Messengers invited him and his Retinue to Court; where the *Spaniard* behaved himself with so much Gallantry, that he soon found a Way into the Affections of the King, who made him his prime Minister, and *Generalissimo* of all his Forces, and bestowed his Daughter upon him, whose Name was *Seang*, by whom he had two Sons, *Donn* and *Aireach Feabhruadb*. *Milesius* having the sole Command of the Army, suppressed the growing Power of the Neighbouring Princes, enlarged the Bounds of that Monarchy, and in many Battles subdued all the Enemies of the *Scythian* Nation. By the continued Course of his Victories, he became the Darling of the Populace, which raised a Jealousy in the King, who resolved to crush and put an End to his Greatness, lest his Ambition, supported by the Love of the People, should animate him to make Attempts upon the Government, and to fix himself in the Throne; and therefore he determined, when a proper Opportunity offered, to dispatch him. *Milesius* informed of this base Design, assembled the principal Officers of his *Gadelians*, and they came to a Resolution of forcing their Way into the Palace, and killing the King; which they immediately put in Execution. Then they retired to their Shipping, and left *Scythia*. They went on board in the River *Tanais*, and sailed thro' the *Euxine* and the *Ægean* Seas till they came to the *Mediterranean*; and so they steered towards the River *Nile*, and landed upon the Coasts of *Egypt*. When *Milesius* and his Attendants came on Shore, he sent Messengers to *Pharaoh Nectonebus* the *Egyptian* King, to notify his Arrival; who returned him his Complements, and invited him with great Civility to the *Egyptian* Court. He assigned a Tract of Land for the Support of the *Gadelian* Forces, and entertained *Milesius*, as became the Dignity of his Character. This Transaction is confirmed by the Testimony of the learned *Giolla Caomhan* in this manner:

Milesius

*Mileſius ſlew the Monarch in his Palace,  
Aſſiſted by his brave Gadelian Troops,  
Then ſail'd away, and left th' ungrateful Shore,  
And landed on the Egyptian Coaſt.*

In this Voyage *Mileſius* was followed by his two Sons *Donn* and *Areach Feabbruadh*, whom he had by the Princeſs *Seang*, the Daughter of *Riffleoir*; but ſhe died before he left *Scythia*. The *Gadelians*, when they arrived in *Egypt*, found that Country engaged in a deſperate War with the *Ethiopians*. *Pharaoh Neſtonebus* obſerving the Valour of *Mileſius*, and finding him to be an expert Soldier, made him the General of the *Egyptian* Forces; and depended upon his Conduct in the whole Management of the War. He firſt reduced his Troops to a ſtrict military Diſcipline, and marched his Army againſt the *Ethiopians*, and engaging in many bloody Encounters, Victory was always on his ſide; and he made that uſe of Succeſs, that at laſt he quite broke the Spirit of the Enemy's Soldiery; and made them Tributaries to the Crown of *Egypt*. The War being thus fortunately ended by the Bravery and Conduct of *Mileſius*, his Fame ſpread into all the adjacent Countries, and he was ſo well eſteemed in the *Egyptian* Court, that *Pharaoh Neſtonebus* gave him in Marriage the Princeſs *Scota* his Daughter, a Lady of great Virtue, and of excellent Beauty. This Princeſs was called *Scota* for the ſame Reaſon that *Scota* (the Daughter of *Pharaoh Cingcris*, who perished in the Red Sea in Perſuit of the *Iſraelites*) obtained that Name, who was the Wife of the famous *Niul*, the great Anceſtor of the *Gadelians*. *Mileſius*, by this Princeſs in *Egypt*, had two Sons, *Heberus Fionn* and *Ambergin*; upon his Arrival in that Country, he appointed twelve of the moſt ingenious Youths that came over with him, to be inſtructed in the curious Arts and Sciences of *Egypt*, with a Deſign when they were perfect Maſters in their ſeveral Professions, to teach his own Countrymen the Trades and Myſteries of the *Egyptians*.

When he had continued ſeven Years in *Egypt* he remembered the remarkable Prediction of *Cancer* the principal *Druid*, who foretold that the Poſterity of *Gadelas* ſhould obtain the Poſſeſſion of a *Western* Iſland (which was *Ireland*) and there inhabit, conſiding in

the

Do tuc Ri-  
oſ pao  
ingean may  
madoi do  
mleab.

pagbar  
21 leabh  
earpaine  
an Egipt.



the Truth of this Prophecy, he fitted out sixty Ships, and furnished them with Provisions necessary for a Voyage; and taking Leave of the *Egyptian* Court, he went on Board with his Followers; and sailed from the Mouth of the River *Nile* into the *Mediterranean*, till he came near *Thrace*, where he landed, and in this Place the Princess *Scota* was deliver'd of a Son whom he named *Ir*. Soon after *Milefius* and his People left *Thrace*, and cross'd many Countries till he came to another Island called *Gothiana*, which lies in the narrow Sea (now called the *British* Sea) which divides the *Baltick* from the Ocean Northwards. Here he continued for some Time, and in this Isle his Wife *Scota* was deliver'd of another Son whom he named *Colpa*; he was the sixth Son of *Milefius*, and was afterwards called the *Swordsmen*. From hence he sailed with his *Gadelians* till he arrived at the Kingdom of the *Picts*, formerly called *Albania*, now *Scotland*. Here he landed and plunder'd all the Country that lay upon the Coasts; and conveying his Booty on Shipboard he sailed away, leaving *Britain* on his right Hand, and having *France* West and by South upon the left, he arrived upon the Coast of *Biscay* or *Biscany* in *Spain*, where he unladed his Ships, and set all his People on Shore.

The Certainty of his Arrival was soon spread over all *Biscany*, and was carried with all possible Speed over the whole Kingdom. He found the *Spaniards* in the most deplorable Circumstances, overrun by the *Goths* and other plundering Foreigners, who took the Opportunity of his Absence, and ransacked the whole Country. *Milefius* resolv'd to prevent the farther Incursions of these *Barbarians*, and deliver his Subjects from the Tyranny of these Invaders, summoned the whole Force of the *Gadelians* that continued in *Spain*, and forming them into regular Troops, he joined them with those that followed him in his Voyages, and offer'd Battel to the *Goths* and their auxiliary Foreigners, and put them to a general Rout. He pursued his Blow, and with the same good Fortune defeated them in fifty four several Battels, and quite drove them out of the Kingdom. By this means *Milefius* and his Relations, who were the Family of *Breogan* the Son of *Bratha*, became Masters of almost the whole Kingdom of *Spain*.



Do éolain  
Mileas  
easpaime  
anyo.

The Sons of *Mileſius* were in the whole thirty two, and twenty four of them were illegitimate: He had eight Sons by his two Wives, *Seang*, a Daughter of the King of *Scythia*, and the Princess *Scota*, the Daughter of *Pharaoh Neſtonibus* King of *Egypt*; but no more than eight which he had by his Wives arrived in *Ireland*, as the Poet testifies in this manner.

*Mileſius, the warlike Spaniſh King,  
Had two and thirty Sons, and Heroes all,  
But only eight, born from the Marriage Bed,  
Arrived in Ireland.*

Twenty four of the Sons of *Mileſius*, we observed, were born to him by his Concubines, before he began his Voyage from *Spain* to *Scythia*; the other eight legitimate Princes he had by his two Wives. *Seang*, the Daughter of *Reſſeoir* King of *Scythia*, bore him two Sons in that Country, *Donn*, and *Aireach Feabhruadh*; and *Scota*, the Daughter of *Pharaoh Neſtonibus* King of *Egypt*, was the Mother of the remaining six; their Names were *Heber Fionn* and *Aimhergin* who were born in *Egypt*, *Ir* born in the Island *Irene*, situated in the *Thracian* Sea, *Colpa*, called the *Swordſman*, born in *Gothiana*, and *Arannann* and *Heremon*, born in *Galicia*. This is observed by a Poet of great Antiquity in the following Lines.

*The valiant Gallamh, who was called Mileſius,  
And fought a thousand Battels with Succeſs,  
Had eight young Princes of his Royal Blood;  
Aireach Feabhruadh, and the noble Donn,  
Both born in Scythia; near the River Nile  
In Egypt Heber Fionn and Aimhergin  
Drew their firſt Breath; the moſt courageous Ir,  
A Hero who in Fight ſurpaſſed them all,  
Born in Irene near the Thracian Shore;  
Colpa, a Prince that well could wield a Sword,  
The Princes Arannan and Heremon,  
Born in the Tower of Bragantia.*

Do lioning-  
eas rleaya  
Easpaime ran  
Spain.

The Children of *Breogan* the Son of *Bratha* increased in *Spain* to be a numerous Progeny, and had that Confidence in the Courage of their Soldiers, that they resolved to attempt a Conquest of some other Country, and make it a Place for their Abode. They came into this Design, because there had been a great Scarcity of Corn and

and other Provisions in *Spain*, occasioned by the burning Heats and Dryness of the Seasons; and they were so continually alarmed with the Inroads of the *Goths* and other Foreigners, that they were obliged to be perpetually in the Field in Arms, for fear of being surprised. The principal Persons of that Family met in Council to debate upon this important Subject, to come to a Resolution which Way they should steer their Course, and who was the most proper to employ in the Discovery of a Country that was capable to support themselves and their People. After frequent Consultations upon this Affair, they agreed unanimously to dispatch *Ith* the Son of *Breogan*; a Prince of great Valour and Penetration, and possessed of many other excellent Qualities, to make a Discovery of the *Western* Island, which by an old Prediction was foretold should be inhabited by that Family. When this Prophecy of the learned Druid *Caicer* was mentioned in the Council, the *Gadelians* were transported with Joy, and depended upon Success in the Undertaking, and *Ith* with great Satisfaction accepted of the chief Command, in that intended Expedition. The Place where this Assembly met to consult was *Bragansa* or *Brigantia* in *Galicja*, in the Kingdom of *Spain*. paroine éa  
con bndot  
an fo.

This was certainly the Occasion of the Voyage of *Ith* the Son of *Breogan* to *Ireland*; and what some imagine is no more than a Fiction, that he discovered the Island in a starry Winter Night with a *Telescope* from the Top of the Tower of *Brigantia*; for we have the greatest Authority from the ancient Chronicles of *Ireland* to believe that there was a strict Friendship and Correspondence by Navigation and Traffick between the *Spaniards* and the *Irish* from the Time that *Eochaidh* the Son of *Eirc* the last King of the *Firbolgs* in *Ireland* was married to *Tailte* the Daughter of *Maghmore* King of *Spain*; so that the People of the two Nations were well acquainted with one another long before *Ith* the Son of *Breogan* was born. And this Account is sufficient to destroy the Credit of that idle Fancy, that *Ith* and the Family of *Breogan* first discover'd the Country of *Ireland* with an optical Instrument from the Top of the Tower of *Brigantia*, and puts it beyond Dispute, that there was long before a constant Familiarity and Acquaintance between the *Irish* and the *Spaniards*.

*Ith*, who, as we observed before, was a Prince of great Learning and Prudence, was of an enterprising Genius, and

and furnished with many other princely Accomplishments, fitted out a Ship with Provision and Necessaries, and man'd her with a hundred and fifty of the most resolute and hardy Soldiers of the *Gadelians*. He took with him on Board his Son *Lughaidh* or *Lugadius*, weighed Anchor, and set Sail for *Ireland*. He arrived upon the Northern Coast of the *Island*, and when he had landed his Men, he sacrificed with great Devotion to *Nep-tune* the God of the Seas, but the Omens were not propitious. A Number of the Inhabitants soon came to the Shoar, and called to him in *Irish* to know his Business, and the Country he was of: He answered them distinctly in the same Language, and told them, that he was of the same Tribe, descended from the great *Magog* as well as themselves; and that the original *Irish* was the Language in Use, and inviolably preserved in his Family.

Tagur ich  
ya bryeden  
atcun ei-  
non.

Ganibiol me  
eatoin de  
mundab na  
Sgolesoit-  
cior.

From this Transaction in the Book of Conquests, the most ancient of the *Irish* Antiquaries conclude, that the *Irish* Tongue was the genuine Language of *Nemedius* and his People, and consequently of the *Firbolgs* and the *Tuatha de Danans*; and this seems to be more than probable from what was observed before, that *Gaoidhal* the Son of *Eathor*, by the Direction and Command of *Fenusa Farsa* King of *Scythia*, reduced the *Irish* Language into Method and Regularity; and from this *Gaoidhal* the Grammarian, the *Irish* Tongue in the same Language is called *Gaoidhalg*, tho' by a strange Corruption, it is called by the *English* the *Irish* Tongue. This *Gaoidhal*, we have said, instructed the *Scythian* Youth in the publick Schools, before *Nemedius* began his Voyage from *Scythia* to *Ireland*; and the *Irish* Tongue was the common Language in *Scythia*, when *Nemedius* came from thence. The *Irish* Chronicles agree, that the *Irish* was the genuine Language of *Nemedius* and his Followers, when they arrived in *Ireland*, and was made use of afterwards by the Posterity of that People; not to say that the *Irish* was the natural Language of the Posterity of *Milefius*, and the *Gadelians* in general, from the Time that *Niul* first departed from *Scythia*. The learned *Richard Creagh*, Primate of *Ireland*, confirms this Opinion by this Remark. *Gallica locutio est in usu in Hibernia, ab adventu Nemedi, anno 630 a Diluvio, in hunc usque Diem. The Irish Language is in Common Use in Ireland from the Coming of Nemedius, six hundred and thirty Years after the*

the Flood even to this Day. And therefore it is no way incredible that *Ith* the Son of *Breogan*, and the *Tuatha de Danans* should converse intelligibly together in the same Language. com mbe glá  
do 1ch 7 do  
tuata de  
danan.

*Ith*, upon his Landing, inquired of the Inhabitants the Name of the Island, and what was the Name of the Prince that governed at that Time; they answered him, the Name of the Island was *Inis Ealga*, and it was under the Dominion of three Princes, the three Sons of *Cearmada Miorhbeoil*, the Son of *Daghdha*, as was before mentioned. They told him likewise that these three Kings were all together at a Place called *Oileach Neid* in the Confines of the Province of *Ulster*, and were quarrelling about a Number of Jewels that were left them by their Ancestors; and the Dispute ran so high, that the Contest, in all Likelyhood, would be decided by the Sword.

Upon this Information, *Ith* made choice of a hundred of his trusty *Gadelians*, leaving the remaining fifty to guard the Ship, and began his March with all Expedition towards *Oileach Neid*. When he arrived, he found there the three Princes of the Island the Sons of *Cearmada*, who received him with great Civility and all outward Marks of Respect, and related to him the Occasion of the Controversy that was between them. *Ith* returned their Complements, and told them, that it was by chance that he came into the Island, and was driven upon the Coasts by Stress of Weather, that he had no Design to continue long, but to return with all convenient Speed into his own Country. The three Kings observing the Prudence of his Answers, and that he was a Person of great Abilities, resolved by general Consent to chuse him Umpire of the Differences between them, and obliged themselves to be determined by his Arbitration. Upon a fair stating the Dispute, *Ith* was of Opinion that the Jewels ought equally to be divided between them. pad 1ch re  
eloin éad-  
míoda anro.

When the Debate was at an End, *Ith* took upon him to recommend Friendship and Unanimity to the Brothers, and told them he thought they had no Occasion to quarrel among themselves, since Providence had made them Princes of so fruitful an Island, that abounded with Honey, Acorns, Milk, Fish, and Plenty of Corn; that the Air was neither hot nor cold, but exceeding temperate and wholsome for human Bodies. moila 1ch  
ar eirín  
anro.

dies, and that the Country was of so large an Extent, that if it was divided equally between them, there would be sufficient to satisfy the Wants, or even the Ambition of every one of them. When he had ended his Advice, and gratefully acknowledg'd their Civilities, he took his Leave, and departed with his Retinue in order to go on Board.

The three Brothers, the Sons of *Cearmada*, observing what Encomiums this Foreigner bestowed upon the Island, and how feelingly he expressed himself upon the Air and the Fertility of the Country, were jealous he would give so great a Character of the Kingdom of *Ireland*; upon his Return, that the *Gadelians* would soon pay them a Visit, in order to make a Conquest of it; and therefore *Mac Cuill*, one of the Brothers, was immediately dispatch'd, with a hundred and fifty of select resolute Soldiers, in Pursuit of *Ith*. They overtook him, and immediately fell upon his Rear; *Ith* perceiving the Attack, came to the Relief of his Men, and by his Conduct and uncommon Bravery, made good his Retreat, till he came to a Place called *Muigh Ith*, called so from this *Ith*, the Commander of the *Gadelians*. Here the *Gadelians* faced about, and both Companies advancing in Order, a most desperate and bloody Battel was fought for many Hours; and *Ith*, notwithstanding he was supported by the bravest Handful of Troops that ever the World bred, was mortally wounded in the Action. His Followers, perceiving their General in this Distress, and despairing of Victory, carried him off, and retired safely with him on Shipboard; where he died of his Wounds, before they were able to reach the *Spanish* Coasts. I am sensible, some of the *Irish* Historians assert, that *Ith* was killed at *Dramligon*, and there was buried; yet I choose to follow this Account, because I find it related by the undoubted Testimony of the best *Irish* Authors.

bayich 3  
myn.

Cilleas lu-  
said mae te  
oon Spain  
le corp a  
acap-

Before the Soldiers of *Ith* arrived in *Spain*, that incomparable Prince *Milefius* died, after he had reigned in that Country for six and thirty Years. He was, as the Chronicles of *Ireland* give his Character, a Prince of the greatest Honour and Generosity; and for Courage, Conduct, and military Bravery, the World never saw his Equal since the Creation. When *Lughaidh*, the Son of *Ith*, had landed his Father's Body, he shew'd it the Sons of *Milefius*, and related the treacherous Circumstances of his Death; which so enraged the *Gadelians*,



that they solemnly vowed Revenge upon the three Sons of *Cearmada*, and engaged to sacrifice their Blood to the *Manes* of their Grand Uncle, and to drive them out of the Kingdom.

But before I begin to give Account of this Adventure of the *Milesians*, in order to the Invasion of *Ireland*, it may not be improper to answer the peevish Objections of some ignorant Authors, who have the Front to assert, that it was impossible the *Gadelians*, who knew nothing of Navigation, and understood neither Sea-card nor Compass, should attempt a Voyage from *Spain* to *Ireland*; and that there were no Ships nor Shipwrights in the World, when the *Milesians* are said to invade the Island: But a small Acquaintance with History will inform us, that soon after the Deluge the Posterity of *Noah* began to build Ships in Imitation of the *Ark*, and, by continued Practice, became great Proficients in that Art; inso-much that not long after the Flood, they had invented several Sorts of Transports, to convey Colonies of People from the Continent of *Armenia*, where *Noah* lived, into remote Islands and distant Countries. Can any one think it possible that the Posterity of *Noah*, who, by the Direction of Providence, were to inhabit almost all Parts of the Earth, and were spread all over the Face of it, could possibly, arrive over Rivers, and Seas, and Oceans, into Countries they were to possess, without the Use of Shipping and Navigation? And is it to be denied, that several Islands and distant Parts of the World, which could never be come at by Land, were peopled by the Posterity of *Noah*, long before the Sea-card or Compass was discover'd? This is so obvious to a common Understanding, that it is needless to insist farther upon it; and it is evident, beyond Dispute, that the Islands in the *Mediterranean*, the *Adriatick*, *Pontick*, and *Western Seas*, and many others, were inhabited, long before the modern Methods of Navigation were known in the World; as appears from the Histories of the first Discoveries of those Islands, that give the earliest Accounts of the Inhabitants, and the first peopling of them.

We meet frequently, in the *Irish Histories*, with many Voyages made by a Sort of *Africans*, who often landed upon the Island; and there we have an Account of certain *Stars*, and the Names of them, that were worshiped by the Mariners, and were supposed to derive a Power from



romed ug-  
bdn do  
ygnib d  
cat na  
cpdoi.

ludb an na-  
om pol.

from the God of the Sea, either to misguide the Ship, or to conduct her safe into the Port. Infinite is the Number of Authors, that mention the Siege and the Destruction of *Troy* by the resolute *Grecians*, which happen'd, as *Scaliger* computes, a thousand two hundred and forty Years before the Birth of *Christ*; tho' *Eusebius* places it earlier by one and twenty Years: But be it more or less, we are certain the *Greeks* fitted out a numerous Fleet, consisting almost of an incredible Number of Ships of all Rates. The *Africans*, the *Grecians*, and all other Nations of the World, are allowed by all Authors, ancient and modern, to have had Fleets at Sea, and to make long Voyages before the Use of a Sea-Card or Compass was ever known. But I am not surpris'd at the Partiality of these petty Historians, who exclude the *Gadelians* (a People ever esteem'd the most ingenious and enterprising of any in the World) from the Use of Shipping and Navigation, when they prostitute their Pens upon all Occasions, to obscure the Glory, and to deface the venerable Antiquities of the *Irish* Nation.†

† Let me for once recommend to them the twenty seventh and twenty eighth Chapters of the *Acts of the Apostles*, where the holy Writer gives a Relation of *St. Paul's* Voyage from *Jerusalem* to *Rome*, with these memorable Circumstances, that the Ship was of a large Size, and able to contain two hundred and seventy six Persons; that she had Sails and Anchors, and that the Mariners steer'd by the *Stars*, long before the Chart or *Compass* were discovered: So that this Objection is of no manner of Force, but design'd only to destroy the Authority of the *Irish* Records, which give an Account of the Voyage of the *Gadelians* from *Spain* into *Ireland*; and to impose upon the World with a Fiction that the *Gadelians* came from some other Country, and were accidentally driven upon the *Irish* Coasts, and for no other Reason but because they could not steer by the *Compass* which at that Time was undiscovered. But the Ancient Chronicles of *Ireland* shall ever be a Guide to me, and unless we depend upon their Authority, it is impossible to arrive at any Certainty of the Antiquities, and the Religious or Political State of that Kingdom.

*An Account of the Voyage of the Milesians from Spain into Ireland, their Adventures, and their Conquest of the Island.*

**H**ector Boetius, in his History of Scotland, is of Opinion, that Heber and Heremon were the Sons of *Gadelas*; but this Assertion is opposed, for very good Reasons, by the learned *Cormac Mac Cuillenain*, who affirms, that *Gadelas* was cotemporary with *Moses*; and observes likewise from the Book of Conquests or Invasions, that the *Milesians* invaded *Ireland* two hundred and eighty three Years after *Pharaoh Cingcris*, King of *Egypt*, perished in the Red Sea; and therefore it is impossible that *Gadelas* should be the Father of *Heber* and *Heremon*; which appears yet more evident, from the Computation of *Cormac Mac Cuillenain* of the several Ancestors of *Gallamb*, otherwise called *Milesius*, King of *Spain*, who was the Father of *Heber* and *Heremon*. I shall represent the distinct Genealogy of *Milesius*, to shew that *Gadelas* was not the Father of these two young Princes, but lived nineteen Generations before them. This Pedigree is extracted from that most valuable Record, the *Psalter of Cashel*.

<i>Gallamb</i> , or <i>Milesius</i>	Son of <i>Feibhricglas</i>	Son of <i>Gadelas</i> .	
Son of <i>Bille</i>	Son of <i>Heber Glunn Fionn</i>	Son of <i>Niul</i> .	
Son of <i>Breogan</i>	Son of <i>Laimfinn</i>	Son of <i>Feniusa Farsa</i> .	Genealogy of Milesius of Cashel.
Son of <i>Bratha</i>	Son of <i>Adhmoir</i>	Son of <i>Baath</i> .	
Son of <i>Deaghatha</i>	Son of <i>Tait</i>	Son of <i>Magog</i> .	
Son of <i>Earchada</i>	Son of <i>Ogamban</i>	Son of <i>Japhet</i> .	
Son of <i>Alloid</i>	Son of <i>Heber Scott</i>	Son of <i>Noah</i> .	
Son of <i>Nuaghad</i>	Son of <i>Sru</i>	Son of <i>Lamech</i> .	
Son of <i>Neanuail</i>	Son of <i>Easru</i> .		

Whoever reads the *Scottish* History of *Hector Boetius*, would be apt to imagine that he intended another *Gadelas*, from whom the *Gadelians* in *Scotland* were derived, different from that *Gadelas* who was the great Ancestor of the *Irish*; but I depend upon the Testimony of a learned Author, who asserts, that the *Gadelians* in *Ireland* and *Scotland* originally descended from the same Founder. *Johannes Major* affirms in Proof of this, *Dico ergo, a quibusunque Hiberni originem duxerunt, ab eisdem Scoti exordium capiunt*. My Opinion is, that from whomsoever the *Irish* were derived, the *Scots* owe their Original to the

w same Founder. And Venerable Bede, in the first Chapter of his Ecclesiastical History, agrees with the Judgment of this Author; where he says, *Procedente autem tempore Britannia, post Britones & Pictos, Scotorum Nationem in Pictorum parte recepit, qui duce Reuda de Hibernia egressi, vel amicitia, vel ferro, sibimet inter eos sedes, quas hactenus habent, vindicarunt.* In Process of Time, the Country of Britain, after it had been inhabited by the Britons and Picts, was possess'd on the side of the Picts, by a Nation of the Scots, who came out of Ireland under the Conduct of Reuda, and made themselves Masters of these Lands, either by Friendship or by the Sword, which they enjoy to this Day; from whence it appears that the Scottish Race came originally out of Ireland into Scotland under Reuda their General, and that the present Scots are the Descendents of that Colony.

uğod bre-  
atnac anyo.
Niall naoi  
Giallac Rig  
eipioñ.
ó gaoiñil  
atad Æl-  
badmice.
 a Welsh Author thus delivers his Opinion upon the same Subject. *Scotos Hibernorum prolem, & ipsi, & omnes optime norunt, eodemque nomine a nostratibus scilicet Guidhil appellantur.* The Scots themselves and others well know, that the Scots are the Offspring of the Irish, and that our Countrymen the Welsh call them both by the same Name Guidhil, that is Gadelians. Giraldus Cambrensis in the sixteenth Chapter of the third Distinction of the Book he wrote upon the History of Ireland, says, that Niall, of the nine Hostages, was the Monarch of Ireland; that the six Sons of Muiredach or Mortaugh King of Ulster made a Voyage to Scotland, where they grew powerful, and by their Courage made themselves Masters of the Country, and obtained the principal Command of it; and that at that Time they gave it the Name of Scotia or Scotland. His Words are, *Gens ab his propagata specificato vocabulo Scotica vocatur in hodiernum.* The Scottish Nation descended from them is particularly so called to this Day. So that what Hector Boetius attempts to prove upon this Subject, in his History of Scotland, is a downright Falshood, and he is to be esteemed fabulous when he asserts that Gadelas was the Father of Heber and Heremon the Sons of Milesius, and would impose another Gadelas upon the World as the Ancestor of the Scottish Nation, different from that Gadelas, who was the Founder of the Milesians, and made a Conquest of the Kingdom of Ireland.

Buchanan, a Scottish Writer, in his History of Scotland, would have it believed, that the Progeny of Milesius

*leſius* came directly from *France* into *Ireland*; and in Confirmation he gives three Reaſons, which he thinks ſufficiently prove it.

The firſt, the Kingdom of *France* was grown ſo populous that from that Part of it only called *Gallia Lugdunenſis*, there went out a Colony of three hundred thouſand able Men, with a Deſign to make a Conqueſt of other Countries; and ſome of theſe, he ſays, were the Poſterity of *Gadelas*, and came into *Ireland*. But this Author ſeems to be groſſly ignorant of the Time when the *Mileſians* got Poſſeſſion of the Iſland, and could therefore have no Knowledge whether the Country of *France* was overſtock'd with Inhabitants or not. But ſuppoſing that *France* could ſpare great Colonies of its People at the Time when the *Mileſians* invaded *Ireland*; is there not the ſame Reaſon to believe, that the Kingdom of *Spain*, not far diſtant, abounded with Inhabitants, and was equally populous, and ſent out Colonies? So that this Argument is no Way convincing, to prove that the *Gadelians* came out of *France*; for by the ſame Reaſon they might as well ſet out from *Spain*, or from any other Country, whoſe People were too numerous, and therefore obliged to ſend Colonies abroad.

His ſecond Reaſon carries juſt as much Evidence with it as the firſt; the *Mileſians*, he ſays, muſt unavoidably come out of *France*, becauſe there is a great Reſemblance between the *French* and the *Irish* Languages, particularly in the Words *Dris* and *Dun*, with ſome others which have the ſame Signification in both. In Answer, we are to obſerve that there are many Words borrowed from all Languages to be met with in the *Fourth Degree* of the *Irish* Tongue, that have been admitted from the Reign of *Fennſa Farda* to the preſent Time; and as we find many *French* Words intermixed, ſo there are a great many *Spaniſh*, *Italian*, *Greek* and *Hebrew* Words, and others out of the other principal Languages of the World, to be diſcovered in the modern *Irish*, which, by Reaſon of the Intercourſe of other Nations, is ſtrangely different from the Purity of the original Language. But this is no Proof that the *Mileſians* came out of *France*; for notwithstanding there may be Words of the ſame Signification in both Languages, yet the Reaſon of it was, as *Julius Cæſar* obſerves in the ſixth Book of his *Commentaries*, becauſe the *Druids*, who were a Sort of *Prieſts* and *Soothſayers*,

went

went from the *British* Isles into *France*, and were received with such Veneration in the Country, that they were advanced to be their Judges, and were invested with large Patrimonies, Privileges, and Immunities, by the Nobility and Gentry of that Nation; or, perhaps these and other Words were introduced into *France* by *Manann*, that was Subject to the *Gadelians*, and whose natural Language was the *Irish* Tongue.

*Artelius* observes that the pure *Irish* was the genuine Language of *Manann*; from whence it appears that the *British* *Druids* or *Augurs* went out of the Island of *Ireland* into *France*; for in those Ages *Ireland* was the Fountain of Knowledge and Learning, and by the *Druids*, who travelled abroad, the Youth of the neighbouring Countries were instructed in the liberal Arts and Sciences; and since the natural Language of these *Druids* must be the *Irish*, it is easy to suppose that the *French* Youths collected many *Irish* Words, and introduced them into their own Tongue, and they are so continued to be used to this Day.

bpote as  
cedguy  
re pad b2il.

Caibneam  
na, Fraince  
7 na heilíon

Dati mae  
Fiaabó ya  
gmaíl gaol-  
biolat:

The learned *Camden* in his *Britannia* informs us, that the *Druids* or Soothsayers more commonly taught the Youth in their Schools by Word of Mouth than by Writing and *Books*; and as a farther Reason how some *Irish* Words came to be intermixed in the *French* Tongue it must be known, as the Book of *Conquests* observes, that the *French* and *Irish* had a Correspondence with one another by Navigation and Traffick, and that the Daughter of the King of *France* was married to *Ugaine-more*, one of the Monarchs of *Ireland*, who made War with the *French*, and likewise that *Crimbthan*, the Son of *Fiodbadh*, another King of the Island, attempted to conquer the Country. The *Irish* often transported their Forces into *France*: *Niall* of the nine Hostages, long after *Ugaine*, at the Head of a numerous Army, designed to overrun the Country, and make it tributary to the *Irish*, and humanly speaking, would have succeeded in his Invasion, had he not been treacherously shot with an Arrow by *Eochaidh*, the Son of *Eana Cinnsealach*, King of *Leinster*, by the River *Loire* in *France*, as shall be more particularly related in the Course of this History. *Dathi*, the Son of *Fiachradh*, another *Irish* Monarch, raised a great Army, and landed in *France*; he marched thro the Country, and spoiled the Inhabitants as far as the *Alps*, and designed in-



tirely to subdue the Kingdom; but he was destroyed by Providence before he had accomplished his Purpose, and slain by a Thunderbolt at the foot of the *Alps*. We have the Testimony likewise of *Cornelius Tacitus*, that there was a great Correspondence, by means of Trade, between *Ireland* and *France*; and therefore the Wonder seems to be at an End, how it came to pass, that the *Irish* and the *French* borrowed some Words one of another, and admitted them into their own Language; for the Reasons we have produced evidently shew that it was impossible it should be otherwise, and sufficiently overthrow the Argument of *Buchanan*, by which he offers to prove that the *Gadelians* sailed from *France* into *Ireland*.

His third Supposition is of no more Credit than the two we have already confuted; he fancies that there is a great Resemblance between the *Manners* and *Customs* of the *French* and *Irish*, and therefore the *Gadelians* must necessarily come out of *France*; but *Johannes Belinus* in his Book, wherein he describes the Customs and Manners of all Nations in the World, makes no such Remark; and therefore the Observation of *Buchanan* in this Case is singular, and like other Fictions to be met with in his History, deserves no Credit.

Having answered the Reasons of this *Scottish* Writer, I am now to reply to the Opinion of some *English* Authors, who pretend to treat of *Ireland*, and assert that the *Gadelians* or the Posterity of *Milesius* came originally from *Britain*, and got Possession of the Island: Their Arguments are much the same with those already answered; and, first, they say that many Words in the *British* and *Irish* Language have the same Signification; but this can be no Evidence that the *Gadelians* were the Inhabitants of *Britain*, and so removed into *Ireland*, because the Country of *Britain* received its Name from *Brittan Maol*, a *Scythian* by Descent, whose Language was the pure *Irish*. *Britannia dicta est a quodam, qui vocabatur Britanus*, says *Camden*: Britain was so called from a Prince whose Name was *Britan*. The learned *Cormac mac Cuillenan* in his *Psalter of Cashel*, and the Book of *Conquests*, and the *Invasions of Ireland*, give the same Account, and observe that *Britain* received its Name from *Brittan Maol* the Son of *Fergus Leathdearg*, Son of *Nemedius*, whose Language was the



Picti do dol  
a dheirinn do  
halbrya.

original *Irish*. This *Brittan Maol* (descended from that noble *Scythian Nemedius*) lived in *Britain*, and his Posterity after him, till *Heremon*, the Son of King *Milesius*, sent the *Picts* to make a Settlement in the Country of *Scotland*. They were afterwards invaded by *Brutus*, the Son of *Silvius* (as some Chronicles relate) and afterwards they were attacked by the *Romans*, the *Saxons*, the *Danes*, and then by *William the Conqueror*, and the *French*; so that after so many Confusions and Invasions of Enemies, it is not to be wondered that the *Irish* Tongue, the genuine Language of *Brittan Maol* and his Posterity (from whom descended the warlike *Britains*) should be strangely corrupted, and almost utterly destroyed. But notwithstanding the Alterations that Language has received, yet some Part of it remains pure and unmixed, and is the same with the ancient *Irish*, that was spoken by *Brittan Maol* and his Posterity.

Cine bu  
eul diuin do  
Sagrab.

Another Reason to account for the near Resemblance between the *British* and the *Irish* Languages, is this Observation, that the Island of *Ireland* was the common Refuge of the *Britains* in their Wars, when they were pressed hard and driven out of their own Country by the *Romans*, the *Saxons*, and other Enemies who invaded them; so that many Families, for Fear of Slaughter or Captivity, fled into *Ireland*, and were not only protected and secured by the Arms of the generous and warlike *Irish*, but had Lands assigned them for their Support, exempt from all Taxes and publick Contributions, as long as they thought fit to stay in the Country. During their Residence among these hospitable People, no doubt but the Children of the *Britains* became acquainted with the *Irish* Language, and from them many of the Villages they inhabited retain their Name to this Day. Such are *Graig na Mbreathnach*, *Sliabh na Mbreathnach*, *Bally na Mbreathnach*, and many others. When these *Britains* thought they might return with Safety into their own Country, they left the Island, and constantly used many *Irish* Words and Expressions, and so did their Posterity. This is a just Account of the Reason of the Analogy there is between the *British* and the *Irish* Language; and how far this will be admitted as an Evidence, that the *Gadelians* came originally from *Britain*, every impartial Person is at Liberty to judge.

Breathnach  
do dul 3 ce  
ite an ei  
nith

I confess there is a very remarkable Resemblance between the *Irish* and the *Britains* in their Manners and Customs. They are both a warlike, a generous, and a brave People distinguished for their Justice and Integrity, free and hospitable in their Houses, Lovers of Learning and learned Men; curious in Chronology, and exact in the Genealogies of their Families; Admirers of Poets and Musick, and particularly delighted with the Harp; and in other commendable Instances there is a very near Likeness in the Disposition, the Genius, and Practice of both Nations. But this is so far from being a Testimony, that the *Gadelians* came out of *Britain* into *Ireland*, that it rather confirms what was observed before, that the *Britains* borrowed their Language, their Manners, and Customs from the *Irish*; and farther, it is certain, that some of the principal Officers, who followed the *Milesians* into *Ireland*, did afterwards leave the Island, and settled themselves in the Country of *Britain*.

The Sons of *Breogan*, who came with the *Gadelians* into *Ireland*, were *Breogha*, *Fuaid*, *Muirtheimhne*, *Cu-ailgne*, *Cuala*, *Eibhle*, *Blaidh* and *Nar*, and from the Posterity of *Breogan*, no doubt, descended the People called *Brigantes*, as the ancient Chronicles of *Ireland* inform us; and what confirms this Opinion, is the Remark of *Thomasius* in his *Latin* Expository Dictionary; who says, that the *Brigantes*, or the Children of *Breogan*, were descended from a Family in *Ireland*, notwithstanding they inhabited the Counties of *York*, *Lancaster*, *Durham*, *Westmoreland* and *Cumberland* in great *Britain*; so that the Difficulty is cleared, and we are now sufficiently informed of the Reasons that many Words of the same Signification are to be found in the respective Languages of *British* and *Irish*; and that the *Britains* copied after the *Irish*, not only in their Languages, but in many of the polite Customs and Manners of that illustrious People.

The learned *Camden* (an Author, fond of the Honour of his own Country) asserts, that the original Inhabitants of *Ireland* came out of *Britain*: But this Writer, tho' ever so well versed in the Antiquities of the *English* Nation, yet must be a Stranger to the early Histories of *Ireland*, because he was unacquainted with the Language they were wrote in, and therefore I chuse to be directed by the ancient Records of the Kingdom, rather

rather than by the ill-grounded Suppositions of any Modern whatsoever.

*Giraldus Cambrensis*, in his Legend concerning the Irish Affairs, relates that the *Milesians* came originally from *Biscany* into *Ireland* by the Command or Permission of a King of *Britain*; and that by the Persuasion of the same King they possessed themselves of the *Orcades*, and from thence transported a Colony of many Families into *Ireland*: His Design, it seems, by inviting these Foreigners, was to bring the Island into his own Power, and to reduce it into the form of a tributary Province to his own Kingdom. The Name of this Prince, if we believe this Writer, was *Gorgundus*, the Son of *Peilin*. But this is an apparent Fiction and Falshood, as will appear evidently, if we consult the Chronicle of *Stow*, which proves to Demonstration, that *Gorgundus* was King of *Britain* not much above three hundred Years before *Julius Caesar* made a Conquest of the Kingdom, in the eighth Year of the Reign of *Cassibelan*, who was King at that time: And the same Author observes that there were not many above fifty two Years from *Julius Caesar* to the Birth of *Christ*; so that by the Computation of *Stow*, there were not full four hundred Years from the Reign of *Gorgundus* till *Christ* was born. Now we are assured by the faithful *Cormac mac Cuillenán*, in his *Psalter of Cashel*, and in the Book of the *Conquests of Ireland*, that the *Milesians* landed in the Island about thirteen hundred Years before the Birth of *Christ*. The Author of the *Polychronicon* agrees with this Account, where he says, *ab adventu Hiberniensium usque ad obitum Sancti Patricii, sunt anni mille octingenti: From the Coming of the Milesians into Ireland to the Death of St. Patrick are a thousand eight hundred Years.* Which is as much as to say, that the *Milesians* landed in the Island about thirteen hundred Years before *Christ* was born; for by subtracting the four hundred and ninety two Years that passed between the Coming of *Christ*, and the Death of *St. Patrick*, the remaining Years will be about thirteen hundred, which is about the Number between the Coming of the *Milesians* into *Ireland*, and the Birth of *Christ*. So that we have the Testimony of *Cormac mac Cuillenán*, the Book of *Invasions*, and the *Polychronicon*, to ballance against the fabulous Account of *Cambrensis*. And by these Authorities it appears, that the *Milesians* were in *Ireland* above nine hundred Years before *Gorgundus*

bred rad  
Cambrensis.

ar mēreio  
te pſale  
cāiril anyo  
7ē.

*gundus* was King of *Great Britain*; which overthrows the Fiction of this idle Writer, who would have it believed, that *Gorgundus* invited the *Milesians* from *Biscany*; that they landed in the *Orcades*, and sent a Colony of Families into *Ireland* to inhabit the Country, when that King was not born by many hundred Years, as the ancient Records of the Kingdom inform us; to whose Authority I shall pay the utmost Deference, as it is impossible without them to open a Light into these distant Transactions, and to confute the Errors and Falshoods of modern Historians, who attempt, without the Assistance of the *Irish* Chronicles, to write about the Antiquities of that Kingdom. These Difficulties being cleared up, I now proceed directly to the Course of the History.

It has been observed before, that when *Luighbaidh*, the Son of *Ith*, had brought the Body of his Father on Shore, he exposed it openly, and related the perfidious Manner of his Death before an Assembly of the Descendents of *Milesius*, and the Sons of *Breogan*. The tragical Sight, and the Treachery of the *Irish* Princes, had that Effect upon the Spectators, that they came into a Resolution unanimously, to invade the Island, to destroy the Inhabitantes, and the cruel Tyrants that governed them, and fix a new Settlement in the Country. Pursuant to this Design, they fitted out a Fleet, and raised a gallant Army of the *Gadelians*, in order to wrest the Kingdom from the Power of the *Tuatha de Danans*. Some Chronicles assert, that the *Milesians* began their Voyage from a Place called *Mandoca* near the River *Verundo* in *Biscany*; and the Ground of this Opinion is, because they say *Milesius* was King of *Biscany* only in the latter part of his Life; for he was driven out of *Spain* by the Incursions of Foreigners, who, with their united Force, had the better of him in several Engagements, and confined him and his People within the narrow Territories of that Country: And there he continued till his Death, for the Country was fortified by Nature; very difficult of Access, and impossible to be subdued by Reason of the vast Woods and Mountains that inclosed it. But this is opposed by the Testimony of the most valuable and authentick Records, which affirm, that the *Milesians* set sail for *Ireland* from *Tor Breogan*, in *Galicia*, and this seems to be the truest Account, for the Book of *Conquests* or *Invasions*, says that *Tor Breogan* was the Place where they held a Council,



and determined to send *Ith* into *Ireland*, and thither *Luighaidh* return'd from *Ireland* with the dead Body of his Father, when he expos'd his Wounds to the Family of *Milesius*, and the Sons of *Breogan*; and therefore it seems reasonable to believe, that they steered from that Place to invade the Island.

do fudih  
2hileab  
Caypaife  
bay 7c.

*Milesius* being dead, before *Luighaidh* returned, *Scota* his Wife resolv'd to leave the Country, and to follow the Fortune of the Sons she had by *Milesius* in this Expedition. For the Kingdom of *Spain* was rent in Pieces by intestine Wars, and the continual Inroads of foreign Enemies. The *Milesians* therefore having put their Provisions and their Men on Board, weigh'd Anchor, and were impatient till they landed upon the *Irish* Coast to revenge the Death of the valiant *Ith*, who was inhumanly slain, in Defiance of the established Laws of Nature and Nations. This Invasion they undertook under the Command of forty brave Commanders. The learned *Eochaidh o Flin* has transmitted to us their Names in a Poem of his, which begins thus, *Taoisig na Luighsin tar lear*.

*The valiant Chiefs of the Milesian Race,  
Who led the bold Gadelians into Ireland,  
Were Eibhle, Fuad, Breagha, Bladhbhin,  
Luighaidh, Muirtheimhne, Amergin, Buas,  
Breas, Buaighne, Donn, Ir, Heber, Heremon,  
Colpa the Swordsman, Eibher, Airnach,  
Arranan, Cuala, Cualgne, Narumne,  
Muimhne, Luighne and Laighne.  
Fulman, Mantan, Bile, Er, Orba, Fearon,  
Feargin, En, Un, Eadan, Goisden, Seagda,  
Sobhairce, Suirge, Palap, Son of Heremon,  
The learned Caicer, Son of Mantan, Warriors all,  
Full of Revenge, sail'd towards the Irish Coast.*

do 10mad  
lung maca  
2hileab.

The Number of their Ships was thirty, and they dispos'd thirty of the most courageous of their Troops in every Ship. They had their Wives likewise on Board, and many others followed them out of a Prospect of obtaining Possessions in this new Plantation.

From these principal Officers who commanded in this Expedition, many Places in *Ireland* obtained their Names. *Breagha*, Son of *Breogan* gave the Name to *Moighe Breagha* in *Meath*; *Cuala* Son of *Breogan* gave the Name to *Sliabh Cuala*; *Cualgne* Son of *Breogan* gave



the Name to *Sliabh Cualgne*; *Bladh*, the Son of *Breogan*, gave the Name to *Sliabh Blaidhma*; *Fuaid*, Son of *Breogan*, gave the Name to *Sliabh Fuaid*; *Muirtheimbne*, Son of *Breogan*, gave the Name to *Sliabh Muirtheimbne*, otherwise called the Plain of *Muirtheimbne*; *Luighaidh*, the Son of *Ith*, who came into Ireland to revenge his Father's Death, gave the Name to *Corca-Luighe* in *Munster*; *Eibhle* the Son of *Breogan* gave the Name to *Sliabh Eibhle* in *Munster*, the Generals *Buas*, *Breas* and *Buaighne*, the three Sons of *Tigebarnbard*, the Son of *Brighe Nare* gave the Name to *Ros Nare* at *Sliabh Bladhma*; *Seaga*, *Fulmane*, and *Mantane*, *Caicer* and his Son *Sobhairce*, *Er*, *Orba*, *Fearon* and *Feargna*; the four Sons of *Heber*, *En*, *Un*, *Eadan* and *Goisdean*; *Sobhairce* whose Father is unknown; *Bille* the Son of *Brighe*, Son of *Breogan*; the eight Sons of *Milesius*, *Donn*, *Aireach*, *Fabhrudbe*, *Heber Fionn*, *Amergin*, *Ir*, *Colpa* the Swordsman, and *Arranan* the youngest; the four Sons of *Heremon*, *Muimbne*, *Luighne*, *Laighne* and *Palap*; *Heber* or *Eibher* the only Son of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*: These were the forty commanding Officers, who conducted the *Gadelians* into Ireland. *Iriel* the Prophet, the Son of *Heremon*, was born after they arrived in the Island.

The *Milesian* Fleet first attempted to land upon the Northern Coast of *Leinster*, at a Place then called *Inbber Slainge*, but now known by the Name of the Harbour of *Wexford*. The *Tuatha de Danans* alarmed at the Number of the Ships immediately flock'd towards the Shore, and by the Power of their Inchantments and diabolical Arts they cast such a Cloud over the whole Island, that the *Milesians* were confounded, and thought they saw nothing but the Resemblance of a *Hog*; and for this Reason the Island was called *Mucinis*. The Inhabitants, by these Delusions, hindred the *Milesians* from landing their Forces, so that they were obliged to sail about the Island, till at last, with great Difficulty they came on Shore at *Inbber Sceine* in the West of *Munster*. From thence they marched in good Order to a Mountain called *Sliabh Mis*; here they were met by *Banba*, attended by a beautiful Train of Ladies, and followed by her Druids and Soothsayers: *Amergin* the *Milesian* address'd himself to her, and desired the Honour to know her Name; she answered her Name was *Banba*; and from her the Island was called *Inis Banba*: From thence they proceeded in their March, and arrived at *Sliabh Eibhline*, where the Princess





ceaf mada  
mileds go  
hrynead.

Princess *Fodhla* met them, with a Retinue of Ladies and Druids about her; they desired to know her Name, and she replied her Name was *Fodhla*, which also was the Name of the Island. They went on, and came to *Visneach*, where they were met by *Eire* and her Attendants; she was likewise desired to discover her Name, and she told them her Name was *Eire*, and from her the Country was called *Eire*: This Transaction is confirmed by the Testimony of an ancient Poet, who in a Poem that begins thus, *Canna bunadhus na ngaidhiol*, has these Lines.

*Banba they met with all her princely Train  
On Sliabh Mis; and on the fruitful Plain  
Of Sliabh Eibhline Fodhla next they sp'd,  
With Priests and learned Druids for her Guide,  
And all her charming Court of Ladies by her Side:  
Then virtuous Eire appeared in Pomp and State,  
In Visneach's pleasant Fields, majestically great.*

These Ladies were married to the three Sons of *Cearmada*, who divided the Island between them, tho' some of the *Irish* Chronicles assert that each of them ruled alternatively over the whole Kingdom, and the Country was for the Time called by the Name of the reigning Prince; this appears from the following Verses.

*These Irish Kings alternatively reigned,  
And for their Consorts chose three Princesses,  
Fodhla, Banba and Eire.*

Amernin in  
the Mile-  
as agay  
elan beg-  
muda.

The *Milesians* after this Adventure continued their March till they came to the Palace of *Teamair*, where the Sons of *Cearmada* kept their Court, and appeared in great Grandeur and Magnificence, encompassed with their enchanted Guards. *Amernin* immediately addressed himself to the three Kings, and resolutely demanded of them to resign their Government, or be decided by the Hazard of a pitched Battel, and this he insisted upon in Revenge for the Death of the valiant *Ith* whom they had treacherously slain. The Prince of the *Tuatba de Danans* surprised at this bold Summons, made Answer that they were not prepared to decide the Dispute in a military Way, because they

had

had no standing Forces, and could instantly bring an Army into the Field; but they were willing the whole Affair should be determined by the Arbitration of *Amergin*, who they perceived was a Person of great Judgment and Abilities, but threatned him withal, that if he imposed any unjust Conditions, they would certainly destroy him by their Inchantments. *Amergin* immediately order'd the *Gadelians* to retire to *Inbher Sceine*, and with all possible Expedition to haste on Shipboard with the rest of the *Gadelians*, and to sail out of the Mouth of the Harbour, or, as others say, nine Waves from the Shore: Then he made this Proposal to the *Tuatha de Danans*, that if they could hinder his Men from landing in the Island, he with his whole Fleet would return into *Spain*, and never make any other Attempt upon the Country; but if he and his resolute *Gadelians* could in Defiance of them land upon their Coast, the *Tuatha de Danans* should resign the Government, and become their Tributaries. This Offer was well accepted by the Inhabitants, who, depending upon the Influence of their Art, thought they should soon get rid of these insolent Invaders; for they had that Command over the Elements by their Inchantments, that they made no Question of preventing them from ever setting Foot upon the Shore again.

In Obedience to the Command of *Amergin*, the *Milesians* returned to their Shipping, and he with them went on board; they weigh'd Anchor, and moved no more than the Distance of nine Waves from the Shore. The *Tuatha de Danans* perceiving the Ships were afloat, confiding in their Art, had immediate Recourse to their Inchantments, which succeeded so far as to raise a most violent and tempestuous Wind, which soon disorder'd the *Milesian* Fleet, and drove them foul one upon another. *Amergin* and *Donn*, the Son of *Milesius* knew the Storm proceeded from no natural Cause, and *Arranan*, the youngest Son of the brave *Milesius*, went up to the Top-sail to make Discoveries, but was unfortunately blown off by a Gust of Wind, and falling upon the Hatch he instantly died. The *Gadelians* began to be in great Confusion; for the Ships were dreadfully tossed, and the whole Fleet was in Danger of being lost: The Vessel which *Donn* commanded, was by the Violence of the Storm sepa-

rated from the rest of the Fleet, and was broken to pieces, and himself and all the Crew were drowned. By the Wreck of this Ship there perished four and twenty common Soldiers, four Galley Slaves, twelve Women, fifty brave *Gadelians*, who went Volunteers, and five Captains, whose Names were *Bille* the Son of *Brighe*, *Aireach Feabbruadh*, *Buan*, *Breas*, and *Cualgne*. The valiant *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, with his Ship, met with the same Fate; for he was divided from the Fleet, and was driven upon the Western Coast of *Desmond* in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, where he split upon the Rocks, and every Man perished. The Body of this unfortunate Prince was cast upon the Shore, and was buried in a small Island called *Sceilg Mithill*.

This Place, by Reason of its peculiar Qualities, deserves a particular Description. It is a Kind of a Rock, situated a few Leagues in the Sea, and since *St. Patrick's* Time much frequented by Way of Piety and Devotion; the Top of it is flat and plain, and tho' the Depth of the Earth be but shallow, it is observed to be of a very fatning Nature, and feeds abundance of wild Fowl that are forced to be confined upon it; I say, they are forced, because the Surface of the Ground (it is supposed) has that attractive Virtue as to draw down all the Birds that attempt to fly over it, and oblige them to alight upon the Rock. The People, who live nigh, resort hither in small Boats, when the Sea is calm, to catch these Birds, whose Flesh being very sweet, they use for Provision, and their Feathers for other Occasions; and it is observed, that these Fowl, tho' almost innumerable, are exceeding fat, notwithstanding the Circumference of the Top of the Rock is but small, and does not exceed three Acres of Land. This Isle is surrounded with high and almost inaccessible Precipices, that hang dreadfully over the Sea, which generally is rough, and roars hideously beneath. There is but one Track, and that very narrow, that leads up to the Top, and the Ascent is so difficult and frightful, that few are so hardy as to attempt it.

This *Ir*, who was so unhappily lost, was a Prince of great Bravery and military Experience, always in the Front of an Engagement at the Head of his stout *Gadelians*, attended with Success whenever he fought, the Guardian and Protector of his Followers in Battel, and

and by his very Name a Terror to his Enemies. The Posterity of this warlike General were the noble *Clana Ruibruaidhe*, who kept a splendid and magnificent Court for the Space of nine hundred Years at *Eambain Macha* in the Province of *Ulster*, and for seven hundred Years of the Time, were the Heroes of the Age they lived in, and were reputed the celebrated Champions of the Western Parts of *Europe*, as shall be particularly observed in the Progress of this *Irish History*.

The learned *Eochaidh o Flin* has taken notice of these Misfortunes that befell the *Milesians* at Sea, in a Poem of his which begins thus, *Taoisig na Luing tar Lear*; the Lines are these:

*The rustling Winds, the foaming Billows rise,  
The Face of Heaven is ravished from their Eyes,  
Art sails, and Courage falls, no Succour near,  
As many Waves, as many Deaths appear.  
The giddy Ships run round, and then are lost,  
Then bulge at once, and in the Deep are lost,  
The brave Milesians to the Bottom horn,  
Attempt to rise, but never must return.  
Donn, Bille, Buan, with his virtuous Bride,  
Dil, Aircach, Buas, Breas, Cualgne;  
All plung'd into the Deep, are buried by the Tide.*

It was observed before, that the Ship, wherein *Ir* was, separated from the Rest of the Fleet, and was lost in the Storm, and his Body driven on Shore, and buried; this Shipwreck, and the Loss of this Prince and of his two Brothers is lamented by an old Poet in these Verses.

*Amergin learned and valiant fell in Battel  
At Billeteinn; Ir was cast away  
Near the rocky Cliffs of Sceilg; and Arranan  
Was Shipwreck'd on the Irish Coast.*

*Heremon*, with Part of the *Milesian Fleet*, was driven to the Left towards the Island, and with great Difficulty arrived safely at *Inbher Colpa*, now called *Drocheda*. The Place was called *Inbher Colpa*, because *Colpa*, who went by the Name of the *Swordsmen*, another Son of *Milesius*, was unfortunately drowned as he attempted to come on Shore: It appears, that this Enterprize of the *Gadelians* was fatal to five Sons of *Milesius*, who

# The GENERAL HISTORY of

who were lost before the Country was conquered, and the *Tuatha de Danans* were dispossessed of the Government. The Death of these five Princes is recorded and confirmed by an old Poet in this Manner.

*The Sorcerers, by Force of wicked Magick,  
Summon'd the Winds, and in the Storm destroy'd  
Five Princes of the fam'd Milesian Race.*

The Names of these Brothers, who perished before the Conquest of the Island, were *Donn, Ir, Aireach Feabruadh, Arranan* and *Colpa* the Swordsman, who were all lost by the Enchantment of the Inhabitants; and no more than three Sons of *Milesius* survived this dreadful Tempest to possess the Country; their Names were *Heber, Heremon, and Amergin*, and they landed at *Inbher Sceine*.

eadb bat  
llana 211-  
eadb an ci-  
pih.

Three Days after *Heber* and his Followers were got on Shore they were attacked by *Eire* the Wife of *Mac Greine*, one of the Princes of the Country, at *Sliabh Mis*, or the Mountain of *Mis*: This Lady was attended by a strong Body of Men, and a desperate Battel followed, where many were destroyed on both Sides. In this Action *Fais*, the Wife of *Un mac Vighe* was slain in a Valley at the Foot of the Mountain, which from her obtained the Name of *Glean Fais*, which signifies the Valley of *Fais*: The Death of this Lady is thus observed by an old Poet.

*The Valley where the lovely Fais fell,  
From her as ancient Irish Records tell,  
Obtained the Name of Glean Fais.*

*Scota*, the Relict of King *Milesius*, was likewise slain in this Engagement, and was buried in another Valley on the North side of the Mountain *Sliabh Mis*, adjoining to the Sea: This Valley, which was the Place of her Interment, was called *Glean Scoithin*, or the Valley of *Scota*, as an old Poet testifies in these Verses.

*Beneath, a Vale its Bosom does display,  
With Meadows green, with Flowers profusely gay;  
Where *Scota* lies, unfortunately slain,  
And with her Royal Tomb gives Honour to the Plain.*

*Mix'd*

*Mix'd with the first the fair Virago fought,  
Sustain'd the Toils of Arms, and Danger fought;  
From her the fruitful Valley had the Name  
Of Glean Scoith, and we may trust to Fame.*

This was the first Battel that was fought between the *Milesians* and the *Tuatha de Danans* for the Empire of the Island, as we are informed by the same Author in this manner.

*The stout Gadelians first their Courage try  
At Sliabh Mis, and rout the Enemy;  
Where Heroes pierc'd with many a deadly Wound  
Choak'd in their Blood lay gasping on the Ground;  
Heroes, whose brave Exploits, may justly claim,  
Triumphant Laurels, and immortal Fame.*

The Persons of Note that fell on the Side of the *Milesians* in this Action, were the Princess *Scota*, and the Lady *Fais*; they likewise lost two of their principal Druids, whose Names were *Uar* and *Eithir*; but there were no more than three hundred of the *Gadelian* Soldiers missing after the Fight, notwithstanding they defeated the *Tuatha de Danans*, and slew a thousand of them. *Eire* the Wife of *Mac Greine*, one of the Princes of the Country, with as many of her flying Troops as she could keep together, retired to *Tailion*, and there related the Misfortune she had met with, and how she was routed by the Enemy, and the choicest of her Men were slain. The *Milesians* continued upon the Field of Battel, burying their Dead, and celebrating the Funeral Rites of the two Druids with great Solemnity. An old Poet makes honourable Mention of this Battel, and confirms some of the Particulars in these Verses.

*On Sliabh Mis our warlike Squadrons stood,  
Eager of Fight, and prodigal of Blood;  
Victorious Arms our stout Gadelians bore,  
Ruin behind, and Terror march'd before:  
A thousand of th' enchanted Host are slain,  
They try their Charms and Magick Arts in vain,  
For with their mangled Limbs they cover all the Plain.  
Three hundred only of our Troops are killed,  
Who bravely turned the Fortune of the Field.  
The learned Uar rushed among the rest,  
But with repeated Blows and Wounds oppress'd,*





*He fell, and by his Side expiring lay  
Eithir, a Priest, and gasp'd his Soul away.  
The Victors then the Funeral Rites prepare,  
Due to their dead Companions of the War.*

ncht tca-  
oirice éla-  
na mileab  
do eadileab  
á nra 7 an  
cip ful do  
gababá ei-  
ne.

It was observed before, that eight of the commanding Officers of the *Milesians* were unfortunately destroyed at Sea by the Incantments of the *Tuatha de Danans*: *Ir* was lost at *Sceilg Mibchil*; *Arranan* was dashed to pieces by a Fall from the Topfail; *Donn*, with five of the principal *Gadelians*, were drowned at a Place called *Teach Duinn*, in the West of *Ireland*. Eight Ladies likewise of the first Quality perished at Sea; two lost their Lives when *Donn* was shipwreck'd; their Names were *Buan* the Wife of *Bille*, and *Dil* the Daughter of *Milesius*, the Wife and Sister of *Donn*. *Sceine* the Wife of *Amergin*, was unfortunately cast away at *Inbber Sceine*. From the Misfortune of this Lady the River was called *Inbber Sceine*, or the River of *Sceine*; for *Inbber* signifies a River, and it is known by the same Name in the County of *Kerry* in *Ireland* to this Day.

*Fial*, the Wife of *Lugnaidh*, was a Lady of strict Virtue and uncommon Modesty; for she was so confounded with Shame, because her Husband had seen her naked as she was swimming in the River *Feil*, that she languished, and died with Grief. The Stream received the Name of *Inbber Feile* from this fair *Milesian*, and is so called to this Time. *Scota* and *Fias*, two other Ladies of the *Gadelians*, were slain in the Battel of *Shiabb Mis* before-mentioned.

The Wife of *Ir* and the Wife of *Muintbeimbne*, the Son of *Breogan*, likewise died before the Battel of *Tailor* was fought; these make up the eight Ladies of the *Milesians* who were dead before that Engagement. The Names of seven of them are recorded in the Book of the Conquests of *Ireland*, and are *Scota*, *Tea*, *Fial*, *Fias*, *Liobhra*, *Ogbbha*, and *Sceine*. The same Number of principal Officers of the *Gadelians* perished before that Action with the *Tuatha de Danans*, whose Names are expressed before. An old Antiquary in one of his Poems has given us the Names of seven of these female Adventurers, who came into *Ireland*.

*Seven Ladies of the chieft Quality  
Followed the Fortunes of the stout Gadelians,  
When they resolved to conquer or to die;  
Tca, the virtuous Queen of Heremon;  
Fial the Consort of the brave Lughaidh;  
Fais was a Princess of distinguished Beauty,  
And the beloved Wife of Un. And Scéine  
Was wedded to Amergin's princely Bed;  
Liobhradh was the Royal Bride of Fuaid;  
Scota the Relict of the great Milesius,  
And Oghbha strictly chaste in Widowhood.*

The Gadelians, who were under the Command of Heber, and came off with Victory at the Battel of *Sliabh Mis*, when they had buried their Dead, and recovered themselves from the Fatigue of the Fight, marched to *Inbher Colpa*, now called *Drocheda*, in the Province of *Leinster*, where they joined a strong Body of *Milesians*, with *Heremon* at the Head of them: With this Reinforcement they sent a Summons to the three Princes of the Island, the Sons of *Caermoda*, to come to a pitched Battel at a Place appointed in order to decide the Government of the Country. The *Tuatha de Danans* accepted of the Challenge, and advanced with their choicest Troops led on by their three Princes, and began the Fight: The *Milesians* received the Charge with great Bravery, and greedy of Revenge for the Death of *Ith*, fell desperately upon the Enemy, and a most bloody Action followed. Both Sides maintained their Ground, and Victory was in Suspense for some Time; but at length the *Gadelians* broke the Ranks of the *Tuatha de Danans*, and occasioned such Confusion among their Forces, that they were put to the Rout with great Slaughter, and driven out of the Field. The three Princes of the Country were slain in this Engagement; *Mac Greine* fell in an Encounter with *Amergin*; *Mac Ceacht* was killed by *Heremon*, and *Mac Cuill* was slain by *Heber Fionn*. This memorable Transaction comes to the Notice of Posterity from the following Verses of an old Poet.

*The Princes of the Island kept their Court  
At Tailton; but the bold Gadelians*



*Punished their Treachery to the valiant Ith:  
Mac Greine, tho' fierce in Fight, Amergin slew;  
Mac Cuil fell beneath the dreadful Sword  
Of Heber; and Heremon Hand to Hand  
O'erbore Maccacht, and pierced him to the Ground.*

*επιτιμιος* In this Action were slain likewise the Consorts of these  
*δο ερε αφο* three Princes, who were *Eire, Fodhla* and *Banba*. The  
same Poet gives this Account of their Death.

*This fatal Day the virtuous Eire was slain  
By Siurge, Fodhla by the Sword of Headan  
Fell dead, and Banba sunk beneath  
The avenging Arm of Cairr.*

The *Tuatha de Danans* perceiving the Death of their three Commanders, despaired of Victory, and fled in great Disorder. The *Milesians* followed their Success with great Slaughter of the Enemy; but in the Pursuit they lost two of their leading Officers, *Cualgne* the Son of *Breogan* at *Sliabh Cuailgne*, and *Fuad* his Brother at *Sliabh Fuaid*: But the *Gadelians*, no way discouraged, pressed hard upon the vanquished, destroyed Numbers of them in their Flight, and put them to a general Rout. The Inhabitants were never able to recruit their Forces, but were obliged to submit to the Victors, and deliver up the Government of the Island.

*ποτιος ει-  
βεν 7 ειρε-  
αμοιη ειρε  
εατορτα.*

Some of the *Irish* Antiquaries are of Opinion, that after the *Milesians* had obtained this Victory, *Heber Fionn* and *Heremon* divided the Country in two Parts between them; the Northern Part, from the River *Boyne* and *Sruibh*, fell to the Share of *Heremon*, and from thence to the main Ocean Southwards came into the Possession of *Heber Fion*. A Poet of great Antiquity makes mention of this Division in this manner:

*The two Commanders shared the Isle between them;  
The North Division Heremon enjoyed  
From the rich Vale, where in delightful Streams,  
The Boyne, the Darling of the Ocean flows;  
Southwards from thence the Royal Heber reigned,  
And his Dominion to the Sea extended.*

Five of the *Milesian* Officers attended upon *Heremon* to his Part of the Country, and had Lands assigned them for their Support, where each of them erected a  
+ Castle

Castle upon their own Estate, and there they resided with their Families. The Names of these five Commanders were *Amergin*, the Son of *Milesius*, *Goisdean*, *Seagbda*, *Sobhairce* and *Siurge*. *Heremon* also built a magnificent Palace, where he kept his Court, at *Argiodrofs* upon the Bank of the River *Feoir* in *Offery*, and called it *Rath Beothach*; *Amergin* raised the Castle of *Turlagh Inbher More*, now called *Arcloe*; *Sobhairce* built the Fort of *Dunn Sobhairce*, *Seagbda* erected *Dunn Deilgusis* in the Territory of *Cualann*; *Goisdean* built *Cabair Nave*, and *Siurge* called his Seat by the Name of *Dunn Eadair*. ouica Ni-  
ogda no Ni-  
og point.

Some of the principal of the *Milesians* likewise followed *Heber Fionn* into his Division of the Country, who generously allowed them an honourable Subsistence, and gave them Lands for the Support of their Families; their Names were *Caicer*, *Mantann*, *Eadan*, *Vige*, and *Fulman*. Each of these *Gadelian* Nobles raised very stately Structures upon their own Estates: *Heber Fionn* built a Royal Palace for himself in *Leinster*, and call'd it *Rath Loamhuin*; *Caicer* erected the Castle of *Dunn Inn* in the West of *Ireland*; *Mantann* was the Founder of *Cumhdach Cairge Bladbruidhe*; *Uinn* the Son of *Vige* built *Rath Arda Suird*, and *Fulman* built the Fort of *Cairge Feadha*.

But this Division of the Island is opposed by some of our Antiquaries of great Authority, who assert that *Heber* possessed himself of the two Provinces of *Munster*, the Province of *Leinster* and *Conacht* fell to the Share of *Heremon*; the Province of *Ulster* they divided between *Eimhir* or *Heber* the Son of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, their Brother's Son, and some others of the principal *Gadelians*; and the *Canthred* of *Corckaluighe*, in the County of *Cork* in *Munster*, they assigned to *Lughaidh*, the Son of *Ith*, who was treacherously slain by the Princes of the Country; in Revenge of whose Death the *Milesians* first engaged in this Expedition. ceadpas na  
Seacht  
ano 7e.

This latter Division of the Island seems to deserve the greatest Credit, because it is certain, that the Royal Palace of *Heremon*, called *Rath Beothaic*, was built at *Argiodrofs* upon the Bank of the River *Feoir* in *Leinster*; and it appears likewise, that the Posterity of *Heber Fionn* resided for many Years in the Province of *Munster*; the Descendents of *Heremon* inhabited in *Conacht* and *Leinster*, and the Family of *Eimhir* or *Heber* the Son of *Milesius*, commonly called *Clanna Rughruidhe*, remained Riog Rata  
eibir fionn  
leat 200d.

and *ui Chriombuin*, where some of their Posterity remain to this Time: It was in the Reign of *Murreadbach Tireach*, that they got into the Enjoyment of these new Estates. The noble Earl of *Antrim*, *Mac Daniel* by Sirname, is descended from *Collanais*, and the most illustrious Family of the *Mac Mahons* in the Province of *Ulster*, the *Maguires* in *Irish Maguidhir*, and the *O Hanluans*, with several other Branches, derived from the same Stem, were the lineal Descendents of *Colla da Chrioch*, as will be confirmed particularly in the Progress of this History.

In the Reign of *Cormack mac Art*, a Descendent from the Posterity of *Heremon*, called *Deisig* (in *English Desie*) the *O Faolains*, the Kings of *Desie* came into *Munster*, and got Possession of a great Part of the Country; and in the Reign of *Oilioll Olum*, King of *Munster*, the learned *Cairbre Musc*, a Gentleman of the Line of *Heremon*, presented a most ingenious Poem in *Irish* to *Oilioll Olum*, wherein he celebrated the Valour, the Generosity, the Magnificence and Grandeur of his Royal Patron, who so graciously accepted the Performance, that as a Reward, he bestowed upon him the two *Urmhumbain* (in *English* the two *Ormonds*) but known then by the Name of *Muscruide*, so called from *Cairbre Musc* before mentioned. These Counties contained all the *Cambrd* from *Bealach more* in *Offery* to *Carrignasuire*, now stiled *Carrig*. These were the Lands confer'd upon this excellent Poet, and not the *Muscruide* in the County of *Cork*; but they continued but a short Time in the Possession of his Issue, for his Family was soon extinct.

It was not long after this, that some of the Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, descended from *Cormac Gaileangadh*, removed out of *Munster*, and settled themselves and their Families in very large Estates in *Conacht* and *Leinster*: the Lands which they obtained were called *Gaileangadh* and *Luigne*; and from the Descendents of this *Cormac Gaileangadh* the noble Families of *O Hara* (in *Irish O Headbra*) and of *O Gara* (in *Irish O Gara*) are derived. So that it appears by what means these several Families got Possession of large Tracts of Land in the Island, and that they did not receive their Estates from the Donation of *Heber* and *Heremon*, when they laid out the Division of the Country. And this Account is Reason sufficient for us to believe, that *Heber*



and *Heremon* did not, after their Conquest of *Ireland*, attempt to share the Country between them in the Manner we have observed before; because we find that *Heremon* built his Palace within the Territories of *Heber Fionn* (called *Rath Beothach*, and situated at *Airgidrofs* in the Province of *Leinster*) which is impossible to suppose; but the last Division has the best Authority to support it, which asserts that *Heremon* was possessed of the Province of *Leinster*, where he erected his Royal Seat and kept his Court.

The *Milesians* brought over with them in the *Irish* Expedition a very skilful Musician, and an eminent Poet; the Name of the Poet was *Cir mac Cis*, and the Musician was called *O Naoi*: These two Persons being very excellent in their Profession, there was some Contest between *Heber* and *Heremon* about them; for they were both delighted with their Company, and resolved if possible to detain them: But they agreed at length to decide the Dispute by Lots, and determine to whom they should belong; by this means the Musician fell to *Heber*, and the Poet was to attend upon *Heremon*; from this Controversy (as the Chronicles inform us) arose that laudable Custom among the *Irish*, to shew great Honour and Munificence to their Poets, Historians, Philosophers and Men of Learning; and the Musician being to attend upon *Heber* in the Southern Part of the Country, that Division of the Island is observed to be more particularly delighted with *Musick*, as an old Poet remarks in this manner.

*The learned Princes Heber and Heremon  
Contended which should, with the Poet's Art,  
And the Musician's Skill, be entertained.  
They cast the Lots; the Northern Prince enjoyed  
The pleasing Charms of Poetry; and Heber  
With Musick first his Southern Subjects blest'd.  
From hence the generous Irish with Rewards,  
Did bountifully crown the Poet's Skill,  
And Musick flourish'd in the Southern Coasts.*

In the *Milesian* Invasion of *Ireland* there came over twenty mechanical Persons of several Occupations, and a Number of labouring Men, fit only for servile Work, whose Business was to rid the Country by cutting down the Woods, and to render it proper for Tillage and



and Pasture; accordingly these four and twenty Labourers, soon after their Arrival in the Island, laid open twenty four large Tracts of Land, which by cultivating became fruitful. The Names of these Tradefmen were *Aidhne, Ai, Asah, Meidhe, Morba, Meide, Cuibh, Clu, Ceara, Reir, Slan, Leighe, Liffe, Line, Leighean, Trea, Dula, Adhar, Aire, Deisi, Deala, Fea, Femhean* and *Seara*; and the Plains that were ridded at that time are literally known by the same Names to this Day.

The Princess *Tea*, the Daughter of *Lughaidh*, the Son of *Ith*, and the Wife of *Heremon* the Son of *Milesius*, gave Orders for erecting a Royal Palace for her self in *Liatrym*, which Seat is now called *Teambhair* from this Lady, who was the Foundress of it; for *Mur* signifies a *Seat* or a *Palace*, and *Tea*, being the proper Name of that Princess, by joining the Words, they found *Teambuir*, and by another Termination in *Irish* they are pronounced *Teambair*; but in Construction they are the same, for they both signify the *Royal Seat* or *Palace of Tea*.

The two principal *Gadelians*, *Heber* and *Heremon*, administered the Government together with great Affection and Unanimity for the Space of a Year, and then an unfortunate Difference arose; attended with very fatal Consequences. The Occasion of the Dispute was the Possession of three of the most fruitful *Valleys* in the whole Island; their Names were *Druim Clasach* in the Territory of *Maine*, *Druim Beathach* in *Maon-muighe*, and *Druim Finghin* in *Munster*: Two of these Valleys lay in the Division of *Heber Fionn*, and he received the Profits of them; but his Wife being a Woman of great Pride and Ambition, envied the Wife of *Heremon* the Enjoyment of one of these delightful Valleys, and therefore she persuaded her Husband to demand the Valley of *Heremon*, and upon a Refusal to get Possession of it by the Sword; for she passionately vowed, she would never be satisfied till she was called the *Queen* of the three most fruitful Valleys in the Island. The Wife of *Heber*, a Lady of a masculine Spirit, prevailed upon her Husband to insist upon his Title, and to defend his Right: And this Resolution occasioned a War between the two Princes, who, by Consent, led their whole Forces to the Plains of *Geris*ol in *Leinster*, where a desperate Battel was fought, in which the eldest Brother *Heber Fionn*, and three of his

do ɛɾɛ ei-  
b'ɪn leheɪp-  
am ɪp ɟɛ.

chief commanding Officers *Suirge*, *Sobhairce* and *Goisdean* were slain. The Death of these brave *Gadelians*, we perceive, was wholly owing to the Pride of this Woman, who, to quicken her Husband in this unjust Undertaking, swore she would not sleep a Night more in the Island, till she had accomplished her Purpose. This Transaction stands thus upon Record in the Verses of an old Poet.

comɾas  
ɾiɔɾan ei-  
b'ɪn an ɾo  
ɟɛ.

*The Royal Princes, Heber and Heremon,  
With mutual Consent, and kind Affection,  
The Isle divided, and they reigned in Peace;  
Till the Ambition of a Woman's Heart,  
The Wife of Heber urged them on to War;  
By Pride overcome, she thirsted to enjoy,  
And to be called the Queen of the three Vales,  
The most delightful Lands in all the Isle;  
She vowed, and raging passionately swore  
That she would never sleep on Irish Ground,  
Till she was Mistress of those fruitful Plains.  
A Battel followed on Geisíol's fatal Field,  
Where Heber Fionn fell a Sacrifice  
To the Ambition of a haughty Wife.*

This Relation is confirmed by the concurring Testimony of the learned *Tanuidhe o Conaire*, who has these Lines:

*Three of the fruitful Valleys of the Isle  
Druim Finghin, Druim Clasach, and Druim Beathach  
Occasioned the fierce Battel of Geisíol,  
Where valiant Heber fell.\**

A. M. 2738.  
cead ɟo ɾi-  
oɟ eiɾiɔɾ  
do ɛɾaɾɾ  
ɾiɟeɾɔ.

*Heremon*, (after this Victory over his Brother, the unfortunate *Heber*) succeeded in the whole Government, and reigned sole Monarch of the Kingdom of *Ireland* for the Space of fourteen Years. There is some Difference in the ancient Records concerning the Death of Prince *Heber*; for some of our Antiquaries assert that he was slain in the Battel of *Airgiod Rofs*, as these Verses intimate.

*Heremon was Monarch of the Isle  
Full fourteen Years after the bloody Fight  
Of Airgiod Rofs, where Heber lost his Life.*

But this Opinion is contradicted by some Authors of great Fidelity, who, with good Authority, deny that *Heber* was slain at the Battel of *Argiod Ros*, and justly place his Death at the Fight of *Geisfol*, before mentioned. In the Reign of King *Heremon* the desperate Battel of *Cuil Caicer* was fought, where *Caicer*, one of the principal Officers of *Heber Fionn*, was slain by *Amergin* the Son of *Milesius*. This Action happened about a Year after the Death of *Heber*, and in the following Year after the Fight of *Caicer*, *Amergin*, the Son of *Milesius*, was killed by his Brother *Heremon* in the Battel of *Bile Teimiodh* at *Cuil Breagh*.

In the same Year the nine Rivers of *Eile* broke out, and the three Streams of *Va Niolliolo* in Ireland began to flow: In the third Year following *Mantan*, and *Fulman*, two of the principal Officers of *Heber Fionn*, were slain by *Heremon* in the Battel of *Breaghuin* in *Freambain*.

During the Monarchy of *Heremon* over the whole Island, the nine following Lakes discovered themselves; *Loch Cime* on *Magh Sreing*, *Loch Buadhaice*, *Loch Bagha*, *Loch Rein*, *Loch Fionnmhaighe*, *Loch Greine*, *Loch Riach*, which spread its Waters over all the Plain of *Magh Maoin*, *Loch da chiodh* in *Leinster*, and *Loch Laoigh* in *Ulster*. Four Years afterwards the *Gadelian* Commanders, *En*, *Un*, and *Eadan*, were slain by *Heremon* in the Fight of *Combraire* in *Meath*, where they were likewise buried; in the same Year three Rivers broke out in *Conacht*, which were all known by the Name of *Succa*.

Some of the *Irish* Historians assert, that after *Heremon* had obtained the Victory over *Heber Fionn*, he divided the Island into five Provinces among some of his commanding Officers. The Province of *Leinster* he gave to *Criomthan Sciathbheil* of the *Dombnonchuibh*, a Gentleman of great Worth, and descended from the ancient *Firbolgs*. He bestowed the two Provinces of *Munster* upon *Er*, *Orbha*, *Fearon* and *Feargna*, who were the Sons of *Heber Fionn* his Brother. The Province of *Conacht* he conferred upon *Un*, the Son of *Vige* and *Eadane*, two noted Generals, who came along with him out of *Spain*; and the Province of *Ulster* he settled upon his other Brother's Son, whose Name was *Heber* or *Eimher*, the Son of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*.

In the Beginning of the Reign of this *Irish* Monarch, the *Picts*, who resided in *Thrace*, left their own Country

Country, and landed with a numerous Army upon the Coasts of *Ireland*. The Reason why they quitted their Country is thus related by *Cormac mac Cuilenan* in his Psalter of *Cashel*. *Policornus* was King of *Thrace* at that Time, and being an effeminate Prince, he resolved to seize by Violence upon a beautiful young Lady, the Daughter of *Gud*, Generalissimo over the *Picts*, and to keep her as a Concubine. This Design was seasonably discovered to *Gud*, who, by the Assistance of his faithful *Picts* (who were then in Pay under the Crown of *Thrace*) found means to destroy *Policornus*, whom they slew, and then fled the Country. They marched thro' the Dominions of several Princes, till they came into *France*, where they were kindly received, and admitted into Pay by the *French* King, who assigned them a Tract of Land for their Support, where they built a City, and properly gave it the Name of *Pictavium*, now called *Poitiers*. When *Gud*, the Commander of the *Picts*, had related to the King of *France* the Occasion of his leaving *Thrace*; and that his Design was to secure the Honour of his Daughter; that Prince also resolved to debauch her himself, and made some Attempts to force her out of her Father's Hands, who so soon as he perceived his Intentions, summon'd his People together, and by Stratagem seized upon the *French* Shipping, weighed Anchor, and stood out to Sea; they came upon the Coasts of *Ireland*; and landed at *Inbher Slainge*; but the young Lady unfortunately sickned and died in the Voyage.

The venerable *Bede*, in the first Chapter of his Ecclesiastical History of *England*, agrees with this Account, with this Difference only, that he says that these wandering *Picts* landed in the Northern Part of the Island; his Words are these, *Contigit gentem Pictorum de Scythia, ut perhibent, longis navibus non multis, Oceanum ingressam, circumagente flatu Ventorum fines omnes Britannia, Hiberniam pervenisse, ejusque septentrionales oras intrasse, atque inventa ibi Gente Scotorum, sibi quoque in partibus illis petiisse locum, nec impetrasse potuisse*. It happened (as *Fame* goes) that a Nation of the *Picts* from *Scythia*, setting to Sea in a few long Ships, after they had by the varying of the Wind, sailed round the Coasts of *Britain*, came at last into *Ireland*, and landed in the Northern Part of the Island; there they found the Nation of the *Scots*, among whom

whom they desired a Settlement, but their Request was denied. But one Circumstance of this Relation is a Mistake, for they did not land in the North of Ireland, but they came on Shore in the Harbour of Wexford, as it is now called.

At that time *Criomhthan Sciathbheil* was Governor of *Leinster* by Commission from *Heremon*, who, as soon as these People arrived, received them hospitably, and entered into a strict Alliance with *Gud* and *Cathluan* his Son, who were the Commanders of the *Picts*, because he wanted their Assistance against some mischievous *Britains* (called *Tuatha Fiodhga*) who spoiled, and made great Depredations on both sides the River *Slainge*; and, to terrify the *Milesian* Soldiery, they violated the Law of Nations, by poisoning the Heads of their Arrows and their other Weapons, which had that Effect as to make the least Wound mortal or incurable. *Criomhthan* relating this savage Practice of the *Britains* to his new Associates, they told them there was a very eminent *Druid*, who came over with them, that by his Skill in Physick knew how to prepare an Antidote against the Poison, and hinder its Operation. The Name of this *Druid* was *Troisdano*, who, when he was applied to by the *Milesian* General, confessed that he understood a Method which would destroy the barbarous Designs of the *Britains*, and expell the venomous Quality of their Weapons: Accordingly he advised him to procure an hundred and fifty white-faced Cows, and when he had digged a Pit near the Place where he usually fought with the *Britains*, to empty their Milk into the Hole, and when any of his Soldiers were wounded by the Enemy, they should immediately go into the Pit, and bath themselves in the Milk, which would prove a sovereign Antidote against the Poison, and hinder its Effect. *Criomhthan* followed the Advice of the *Druid*, and when he had made the Pit near the Field of *Battel*, and filled it with Milk, according to the Directions, he drew up his Forces against the *Britains*, and a most desperate Fight followed (called the *Battel of Cath Arda Leamhnachta*) and the *Milesians* obtained a complete Victory; for when any of the *Gadelian* Soldiery perceived themselves wounded, they immediately removed to this Bath of Milk, where they washed, and became perfectly cured. This Defeat of the *Britains* (who were called *Tuatha Fiodhga*)



*Fiodhga*) is transmitted to Posterity by a very ancient Poet of good Authority in these Lines:

*The wandering Picts, after a tedious Voyage  
Around the British Coasts, at length arrive  
Upon the Irish Shore; where the Gadeliens  
Were fighting with the Britains fierce and cruel,  
Who with envenom'd Arrows certain Death  
Dispens'd, and many a brave Milesian  
Languish'd with Wounds incurable, till relieved  
By a prevailing Antidote, prescribed  
By the wise Trofdan of the Pictish Race.  
This learned Druid exquisitely skill'd  
In Poison, did expell the subtle Venom  
By a warm Bath of Milk, which from the Dugs  
Of an hundred and fifty bald faced-Cows distilled;  
The Soldiers here softned their rankling Wounds,  
And wash'd, and to the Fight returned unburt.  
Thus were the Britains routed in the Field,  
And all their barbarous Art defeated.*

deif an tá-  
ta do tá-  
bá do tá-  
bá do tá-  
bá do tá-  
bá do tá-  
bá do tá-  
bá do tá-  
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bá do tá-

After this Victory over the Britains, *Gud* and his Son *Cathluan*, who were the Leaders of the *Picts*, formed a Conspiracy, and resolv'd to possess themselves of the Government of *Leinster*, and there to settle with their Followers. This Design was timely discover'd to *Heremon* the King of *Ireland*, who immediately rais'd an Army to suppress these Foreigners, and drive them out of the Country. But before they came to engage, the *Picts*, unable to resist the *Milesian* Troops, with great Humility and Submission surrendred themselves up to the Mercy of the King, who with great Generosity pardon'd them, and withdrew his Forces: But gave them notice withal, that there was a Country lying East and by the North of *Ireland*, where they might transport themselves, and obtain a Settlement. The *Picts* immediately came to a Resolution to leave the Island, but first desired some of the *Milesian* Women to go along with them, upon whose Issue they solemnly swore that the Government of the Country (if ever it came into their Hands) should devolve, and continue for ever in their Family. Upon these Assurances *Heremon* complied, and delivered to them three Women of Quality, who were Widows; they were the Relicts of *Breas*, *Buas*, and *Buaighne*; one of whom *Cathluan*, the chief Com-



mander of the *Picts*, took to himself. They immediately set sail, and arrived at *Cruithbantuath* now called *Scotland*, where *Cathluan*, the *Pictish* General, obtained the Sovereignty of the Country, and was the first Monarch of the *Pictish* Line; and of this Family, after the Demise of this Prince, there were seventy successive Kings in *Scotland*, as is observed in the following Verses extracted from the Psalter of *Cashel*, out of a Poem that begins thus, *Eolach Alban Vile*.

*The Picts, unable to withstand the Pow'r  
Of the Milesian Troops, a Truce implore;  
And willing to be gone, their Anchors weigh'd,  
And boldly the Albanian Coasts invade;  
Where seventy Monarchs of the Pictish Race  
With great Exploits the Scottish Annals grace:  
'Twas Cathluan began the Royal Line,  
Which ended in the Hero Constantine.*

The learned *Trosdan*, who, by his Art, assisted the *Gadeliens* in subduing the *Britains*, and five more of principal Note among the *Picts*, did not follow the Fortune of *Cathluan* in the *Scottish* Expedition; their Names were *Oilean*, *Ulpra*, *Neachtain*, *Nar*, and *Eneas*; and these six that remained in *Ireland* had Estates assigned them for their Support in *Breagmbuigh* in *Meath*.

*Heremon*, the King of *Ireland*, after a Reign of fourteen Years, died at *Airiod Ross* in *Rath Beothaicc* near *Feoir*, and there he was buried; and in the same Year the River called *Eithne* broke out, and began to flow between *Dail na Ruidhe* and *Dailriada*.

The *Chronicles of Ireland* give an Account that *Heremon* sent away a great Number of the Posterity of *Breogian*, that is, the *Brigantes*, and of the *Tuatha de Danans* along with the *Picts* in their Invasion of *Scotland*; and from these Descendents of *Breogan* were the *Brigantes* derived, who afterwards possessed themselves of very large Settlements in *England*: Such of this Family (called in *Irish* *Clanna Breogain*) as survived the Battel of *Tailteann*, separated, and some of them followed *Heber Fionn* into *Munster*, others attended upon *Heremon* into *Conacht* and *Leinster*, and Part of them went into *Ulster* with *Heber* the Son of *Ir*. These *Brigantes*, some Time afterwards understanding that the *Picts* and their

their Relations that followed them had been successful in the *Scottish* Invasion, and had wrested the Government out of the Hands of the former Inhabitants, a Number of them animated with this Success, resolved to transport themselves thither, and obtain a Settlement in the Country; thither therefore they came, and had Lands and Estates bestowed upon them for their Maintenance. But in Process of Time, they with the *Picts* were driven out of the Country by the prevailing Power of the *Dalriada*, and afterwards by *Fergus* the Great, as will be particularly mentioned in the farther Progress of this History. Some of the *Irish* Chronicles assert, that the Posterity of *Breogian* (afterwards called the *Brigantes*) came into *Ireland*, *Albion*, and *Britan*, as they fled out of *Spain*, to avoid the cruel Tyranny of the *Goths* and the Incursions of other hostile Nations, who miserably ravaged that Country after the Sons of *Milesius* had left it; so that we have Reason to conjecture, that the *Brigantes* of *England* removed thither from *Ireland*, *Albion*, and *Spain*, when they fixed themselves in some of the Counties of that Kingdom.

A. M. 2752.

Ἐπίστυ μᾶγε-  
σις ἡρώδης.

Upon the Decease of *Heremon*, King of *Ireland*, the Crown devolved upon his three Sons, *Muimbne*, *Luighne* and *Laighne*; these Princes reigned jointly and peaceably for the Space of three Years; at which Time *Muimbne* died at *Magh Cruachain*, and the remaining Brothers *Luighne* and *Laighne* were slain by the Sons of *Heber Fionn* at the Battel of *Ard Ladhran*.

A. M. 2755.

The Succession then came into the Hands of *Er*, *Orbba*, *Fearon* and *Feargna*, the four Sons of *Heber Fionn*, who governed the Kingdom together for one Year, and were slain in an Engagement by *Irial* the Son of *Heremon*.

A. M. 2756.

They were succeeded by *Irial*, Son of *Heremon*, who was a learned Prince, and could foretell Things to come: The Reason of his entering into War with the Sons of *Heber Fionn* was, because they had basely taken away the Lives of two of his elder Brothers, who died without Issue, so that the Crown came by Succession to him, and he governed the Kingdom ten Years. During the Reign of this Monarch, a great Part of this Country was laid open, and freed from Woods; particularly the following Places were cleared, and made fit for Tillage and Pasture: Their Names were *Magh Reidhiodh* now called *Lex Magh Neilm* in *Leinster*, *Magh Comair*,

μᾶγε δεῖ-  
ἔπῃ ἐλόμε-  
εἰς ἡρώδης.

Comair, Magh Feile in Jobh Neill, Magh Samhis in Conacht, Magh Nimis in Ulster, Magh Midhe, Magh Luigne in Conacht, Magh Teachta in Jobh mac Uais, Magh Fearnuighne at Oirgialladh, Magh Cobha at Jobh Beathach, Magh Cumair at Jobh Neil, Magh Cuille Feadh, Magh Riada, Magh Narbhrioch at Foitharibuaithaibh Arbhrioch in Leinster. This Prince adorned his Country with seven Royal Palaces, where he kept his Court; they were called Rath Ciombaoith at Neambain, Rath Cómcheada at Seimbne, Rath Mothuig at Deag Carbad, Rath Buirioch at Sleachtaibh, Rath Luachar at Glas Carn, Rath Croine at Magh nis, and Rath Boachoill at Latharna.

The Year after these Seats were erected, the three Rivers, called the three *Finnis* in Ulster, broke out and began to flow. The following Year this Prince won four remarkable Victories over his Enemies; the first was at the Battel of *Ard Inmath* at *Teabtha*, where *Slurine*, the Son of *Duibh*, Son of *Fomboir* was slain; the second was at the Battel of *Teanmhuighe*, which he fought against a sort of Pyrates, called *Fombarraig*, and slew *Eichtghe* the Leader of them; the third was at the Battel of *Loch muighe*, where *Lugrot*, the Son of *Mogh-seibhis*, was slain; and the fourth was at the Battel of *Cuill Martho*, where he overcame the four Sons of *Heber*. The second Year after this Victory *Irial* died, at a Place called *Magh Muagh*, where he was buried. These Battels are recorded by an old Poet in these Verses:

*Irial, the youngest of the Royal Line,  
Was King of Silabh Mis, and King of Macha:  
Success attended him, whenever he fought;  
And in four Battels he was crowned with Victory.*

*Eithrial*, the Son of *Irial*, Son of *Heremon*, succeeded in the Government, and reigned twenty Years as Monarch of the whole Kingdom: This Prince was distinguished for his excellent Learning, for he wrote with his own Hand the History and Travels of the *Gadeliars*; nor was he less remarkable for his Valour and military Accomplishments. In his Reign, seven Plains or Woods that cover'd a great Tract of Land, were cut down; they were called *Tean mbagh* in Conacht, *Magh Liogat*, *Magh Bealaig* at Jobh Turtair, *Magh Geisile* at Jobh Failge, *Magh Ochtair* in Leinster, *Loch mbagh* in Conacht,

and *Magb Rath* at *Jobb Eachach*. After this long Reign of twenty Years this Prince was killed by *Conmaol*, the Son of *Heber Fionn* at the Battle of *Soirrean* in *Leinster*.

A. M. 1786. *Conmaol*, the Son of *Heber*, *Fionn* by this Victory obtained the Crown, and governed the Kingdom of *Ireland* thirty Years, and was the first absolute Monarch of *Ireland* of the *Hiberian* Line: He was continually engaged in Wars with the Family of *Heremon*, and fought five and twenty pitched Battels against them, and came off with Victory in every one; the Names of nine of them were as follow, the Battel of *Ucha*, the Battel of *Cnucha*, the Battel of *Sliabh Beatha*, the Battel of *Geisille*, where *Palap*, the Son of *Heremon*, was slain, the Battel of *Mudbuirn*, where *Sambro*, the Son of *Jonbhotha* was killed, the Battel of *Lochlein*, where *Magrot* was slain, the Battel of *Beirre*, the Battel of *Aonagh Macha*, where *Conmaol* this valiant Prince lost his Life by the Hands of *Heber*, the Son of *Tigbermbas*, of the Line of *Heremon*. After the Battel he was buried upon the South side of *Aonach Macha*, in a Place called *Feart Chonmaoil*, which signifies the Grave of *Conmaol*, for the *Irish* Word *Feart* in the *English* signifies a *Grave*.

A. M. 1816. *Tigbermas*, the Son of *Follain*, Son of *Eithriall*, Son of the learned *Irial* the Prophet, the Son of *Heremon*, succeeded and reigned fifty Years; he was continually alarmed with the Pretensions of the Family of *Heber Fionn*; but he engaged them in twenty seven Battels, and had always the Victory. The Names of these several Actions stand thus upon Record; the Battel of *Eille*, where *Rochoorb*, the Son of *Gullain*, was slain, the Battel of *Comair*, the Battel of *Maighe Teach*, the Battel of *Loch Moige*, where *Deighiarno*, the Son of *Goill*, Son of *Gullain* was killed, the Battel of *Cuillard* at *Moighinis*, the Battel of *Cuill Fraochain*, the Battel of *Atgairt* in *Seimbne*, the Battel of *Ard Niadh* in *Conacht*, the Battel of *Carn Fearradboig* where *Fearradbach* the Son of *Rochoirb*, Son of *Gullain* was slain, the Battel of *Cluain Cuis* in *Teabbtha*, the Battel of *Combnuidhe* at *Tuath Eibhe*, the Battel of *Cluain Muireag* in the North of *Breisne*, the Battel of *Cuill Fabbhair* at *Earbus*; the seven Battels at *Luglocht*, by *Loch Lugbach*, the two Battels of *Cuill* at *Argiod Ross*, and the Battel of *Reibh*, where

where most of the Posterity of *Heber Fionn* were destroyed by the Forces of *Tighermbas*.

The following Year nine Streams broke out of the Earth and began to flow; their Names were *Loch Cea*, which covered the Plain of *Magh Falcbuir*, *Loch Nual* line in *Conacht*, *Loch Niarnuin*, *Loch Nuair*, *Loch Saiglean*, *Loch Gabbair* in *Meath* and *Breagmbaigh*, *Loch Feabhail* at *Tir Eogain*, which drowned the whole Tract of Land called *Feabbuil Mac Loduin* and *Magh Fuinsigbe*, by which Names the Country it overflowed was called; *Dubb Loch* at *Ard Cianachta* and *Loch Dabbuil* in *Oirgi-alladh*. About this Time the three black Rivers in Ireland discovered themselves, *Fubno*, *Torruin* and *Cal-luin*.

The first golden Mine in this Country was found out in the Reign of this Prince; it was discovered near *Liffee*, by a Person called *Juchadban*, who had the Management of the Ore, and was very curious in the working of Metals. In his Time likewise the Colours of *Blue* and *Green* were invented, and the People began to be more polite in their Habits, and set off their Drefs with various Ornaments. This Prince establish'd a Law thro' his whole Dominions, that the Quality of every Person should be known by his Garb; and for a Distinction he enacted, that the Cloaths of a Slave should be of one Colour, the Habit of a Soldier he allowed to be of two Colours, he permitted three Colours to the Drefs of a commanding Officer; the Apparel of Gentlemen, who kept hospitable Tables for the Entertainment of Strangers, was to consist of four Colours; five Colours were allowed to the Nobility of the Country; the Kings and Queens and the Royal Family were confined to six Colours, and the Chronologers and Persons of eminent Learning were indulged the same Number.

This Prince died at *Magh Sleachta*, and three Parts of his Subjects, by the Judgment of Heaven, perished with him the same Night; it was upon the Eve of the Festival of *All Saints*, and he was struck as he was worshipping his Idol *Crom cruadh*, the same God that *Zoroaster* adored in Greece. The *Irish* Antiquaries agree, that *Tighermbas* was the first that introduced Idolatry, and erected Pagan Altars in the Island, and began to establish his Religion about an hundred Years after the *Milesians* arrived in the Country. From the Adoration paid to this Idol, and the kneeling Posture of those who worshiped it,



it, the Field in *Breifne*, now in the County of *Lahain*, was called *Magh Sleachta*. After the Decease of this Prince, some of our Authors are of Opinion that there was an *Interregnum*, and the Country was without a King for the Space of seven Years, and then they place upon the Throne of *Ireland* *Eochaidh Faobharglas*, the Son of *Conmaol*; but this is a Mistake, and is contradicted by the *Regal Table* of the *Irish* Monarchs, which particularly mentions that the Successor of *Tighebmhas* was *Eochaidh Eadgothach*, a Descendent of *Lughaidh* the Son of *Ith*; and this Account has Authority sufficient for us to follow.

A. M. 2866. *Eochaidh Eadgothach*, the Son of *Daire*, Son of *Conghal*, Son of *Eadamhuin*, Son of *Mail*, Son of *Lughaidh*, Son of *Ith*, Son of *Breogan*, succeeded *Tighebmhas* in the Throne of *Ireland*; his Reign continued four Years, and then he was slain by *Cearmna* of the Line of *Ir*, Son of *Milefius*.

A. M. 2870. *Cearmna* and *Sobhairce*, two Brothers, and the Sons of *Eibhric*, Son of *Eibher* or *Heber*, Son of *Ir*, Son of *Milefius*, succeeded and reigned joint Monarchs of *Ireland* forty Years. These were the first *Irish* Princes, who came out of *Ulster*, and were of the Line of *Ir*. They agreed to divide the Kingdom between them into two Parts; and the Boundary between each Division extended from *Inbber Colpa*, now called *Drocheda* to *Limerick* in *Munster*. The North Part of the Country was possessed by *Sobhairce*, who erected a magnificent Palace in his own Share, and called it *Dunn Sobhairce*. His Brother *Cearmna* was a Prince of the Southern Division, in which he likewise built a Royal Seat where he kept his Court, and gave it the Name of *Dunn Cearmna*; it is now called *Dunn Patrick*, and is situated in *Courcies* Country. *Sobhairce* was killed by *Eochaidh Mean*, and *Cearmna* was slain in the Battel of *Dunn Cearmna* by *Eochaidh Faobharglas*, a Prince of the Family of *Heber Fionn*.

A. M. 2910. *Eochaidh Faobharglas*, Son of *Conmaol*, Son of *Heber Fionn*, Son of *Milefius*, obtained the Crown, and sat upon the *Irish* Throne twenty Years. He was distinguished by the Name of *Eochaidh Faobharglas*, because the two Javelins he used in the Wars were green and sharp-edged, and he wore a Sword of the same Colour; for the Word *Glas* signifies green, and *Faobhar* signifies sharp-edged, and these two Epithets being joined sound *Faobharglas*.

ee3mnd 7  
Sobhairce da  
ee3b 2105  
e1m108 do  
o1l1u1ec.

Eochaidh  
Faobhar-  
glas, o  
glayre 7 o  
geire d  
Alm.



*Faobharglas*. This Prince was the first of the *Milesian* Kings, that by his Arms reduced a Part of *Albain* or *Scotland* to become tributary to the Crown of *Ireland*; for the *Picts*, who settled themselves in that Country, notwithstanding they bound themselves with solemn Oaths to pay Homage to the King of *Ireland*, broke out into frequent Rebellions since the Time of *Heremon*; and gave great Disturbance to the *Irish* Government. This Prince was annoyed by the Posterity of *Heremon*, against whom he fought the following Battels, and came off with Success; the Battel of *Luachair Deagbadh* in *Desmond*, the Battel of *Fosúighe da Ghort*, the Battel at the meeting of the three Streams, the Battel of *Tuam Dreogan* at *Breffne*, and the Battel of *Drom Lia-thain*. He laid open the Country by cutting down seven great Woods which were known by the Names of *Magh Smearthuinn* in *Pve Failge*, *Magh Laoighion*, *Magh Luirg* in *Conacht*, *Magh Leambna*, *Magh Manair*, *Magh Fubna*, and *Magh da Ghabhol* at *Oirgialladh*. *Eochaidh* was at length killed by *Fiachadh Labbruine*, who was a descendent from *Heremon* at the Battel of *Corman*.

*Fiachadh Labbruine*, the Son of *Smiorgoill*, the Son of *Eanbothadh*, Son of *Tighernmas*, Son of *Follain*, Son of *Eitbrial*, Son of *Irialsaidh*, Son of *Heremon*, succeeded and reigned Monarch of *Ireland* twenty four Years, tho' some of our Antiquaries assert that he reigned seven and twenty Years: The Reason why he was distinguished by the Name of *Fiachadh Labbruine*, was because in the Time of this Prince the Stream of *Inbher Labbruine* began to flow. There broke out likewise under his Government, the Rivers *Inbher Fleisge* and *Inbher Maige*, as did the Lake called *Loch Eirne*, which overflowed a great Tract of Land that was known by the Name of *Magh Geanuinn*.

This *Irish* Monarch had a Son called *Aongus Ollbhua-gach*, who was a Prince of great Courage and singular Conduct, and engaged the *Scotish Picts* and the old *Britains* that inhabited that Country, and defeated them in every Action. The Effect of his Victories was an intire Conquest of the Country, and a Reduction of that warlike People the *Scots*, as well as the *Picts*, to pay Homage to the Crown of *Ireland*; for tho' the *Picts* had from the time of *Heremon* been Tributaries to the *Irish* for the Space of two hundred and thirty Years

after the *Milesians* first possessed themselves of the Island, yet the *Scots* never owned themselves under Subjection till they were conquered by *Aongus Ollbhuadhach*, who compelled the whole Kingdom of Scotland to Obedience, and forced the Inhabitants to pay an yearly Tribute.

*Fiachadh Labbruine*, the King of Ireland, engaged the Family of *Heber Fionn* in four Battels; they were called the Battel of *Fairge*, the Battel of *Gallug*, the Battel of *Claire*, and the Battel of *Bealgadain*, in which Action he fell by the Hands of *Eochaidh Mumho*, the Son of *Moseibhis*.

A. M. 2954. *Eochaidh Mumho*, the Son of *Moseibhis*, Son of *Eochaidh Faobharglas*, Son of *Connaol*, Son of *Heber Fionn*, Son of *Milesius*, sat next upon the Irish Throne: His Reign continued two and twenty Years; and he was slain by *Aongus Ollmuchach* at the Battel of *Cliaich*.

A. M. 2975. *Aongus Ollmuchach* succeeded: This King was the Son of *Fiachadh Labbruine*, Son of *Smirgoil*, Son of *Irialfaidh*, Son of *Heremon*, Son of *Milesius*; he reigned eighteen Years, tho' some Antiquaries assert that he governed one and twenty Years: The Reason why he was called *Ollmuchach*, was because he was famous for having a Breed of Swine of a much larger Size than any in Ireland; for the Irish Words *Oll* and *Muca* signifie great Swine, which gave Occasion to his Name of *Ollmuchach*. He was a valiant and warlike Prince and fought the following Battels, the Battel of *Cleire*, the Battel of *Sliabh Caoithe*, where *Baiscion* was slain, the Battel of *Moig ein Sgiath* in *Conacht*, the Battel of *Glaife Fraochain*, where *Fraochan Faidh* was killed; and he fought thirty Battels against the *Picts*, the *Firbolgs*, and the Inhabitants of the *Orcades*.

In the Reign of this Prince three Lakes began to flow; *Loch Einbheithe Anoirghiallaibh*, *Loch Failcheadam*, and *Loch Gasain* at *Muigh Luirg*; and by his Industry the following Plains were laid open, and cleared of the Wood, *Magh Glinne Dearcon* in *Cineal Conuill*, *Magh Nionsgiach* in *Leinster*, *Magh Cuille Caol* in *Boghine*, *Aolmagh* at *Callroighe*, *Magh Mucraine* in *Conacht*, *Magh Luachradh Deaghadh* and *Magh Archuill* in *Kerry Luachradh*. *Aongus* was at length slain by *Eana*, Son of *Neachtan*, a Person of Authority in *Munster*, tho' I am induced to believe he was killed rather by *Eana Firtbeach* in the Battel of *Carman*, because not only the Histories which treat of the Kings

Mosey  
allmuchach  
faobharglas  
connaol  
heber fionn  
milesius  
don eile ne-  
nalin an ei  
rith.

of Ireland assert the same, but the Poems which are of great Authority, and begin with these Words, *Aongus Ollmuchiadh Adhab*, are likewise an undeniable Evidence of this Opinion.

*Eadna Airgtheach*, the Son of *Eochaidh Mumbo*, Son of *A. M. 2993!*  
*Modh Feibhis*, Son of *Eochaidh Faobharglas*, Son of *Conmhaol*, Son of *Heber Fionn*, Son of *Milesius*, succeeded, and reigned Monarch of Ireland, seven and twenty Years; This Prince took care to reward the Courage of his Soldiery; and to incite their Bravery, he ordered a Number of silver Shields and Targets to be made, which he bestowed among the most valiant and deserving of the *Irish Militia*, without Partiality or Affection, and regarded nothing in the Distribution but Merit and military Experience. He was unfortunately killed by *Rotheachta*, Son of *Maoin*, Son of *Aongus Ollmuchiadh* in the Battel of *Raighne*.

*Rotheachta* after him enjoyed the Crown; He was *A. M. 3020;*  
 the Son of *Maoin*, Son of *Aongus Ollmuchiadh*, Son of *Fiachaidh Labhrúine*, Son of *Smiorgoill*, Son of *Eanbotha*, Son of *Tighernmas*, Son of *Follain*, Son of *Eathriall*, Son of *Irialsaidh*, Son of *Heremon*; he governed the Kingdom twenty five Years, and was slain by *Seadbna*, Son of *Artri*, at *Rath Cuachbain*.

*Seadbna* was the next Monarch of Ireland: This *A. M. 3045;*  
 Prince was the Son of *Artri*, Son of *Eibhric*, Son of *Eibber* or *Heber*, Son of *Ir*, Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*; he unhappily fell by the Hands of his own Son, when the *Dublingios*, that is, the Pyrates came to *Cruachan*, after a Reign of five Years.

*Fiachadh Fionsgothach*, the Son of *Seadbna* Son of *Artri*, *A. M. 3050.*  
 Son of *Eibhric*, Son of *Heber*, Son of *Ir*, Son of *Milesius*, succeeded, and governed the Kingdom twenty Years. The Reason why he was called *Fiachadh Fionsgothach*, was because in his Reign it was observed, that there grew Abundance of *white Flowers*, which the Inhabitants squeezed into Cups, and used the Juice for Drink, which was likewise very medicinal in many Distempers; for the Word *Sgoth* signifies a *Flower*, and *Fionn* signifies *white*, which being joined, is pronounced *Fionsgothach*. This Prince was killed by *Muinbeamhoin*, the Son of *Cas Clothach*.

*Muinbeamhoin*, obtained the Government: He was *A. M. 3070;*  
 the Son of *Cas Clothach*, Son of *Firarda*, Son of *Rotheachta*, Son of *Rosa*, Son of *Glas*, Son of *Nuagbat*,  
 Son

Son of *Eochaidh*, *Faobhar Glas*, Son of *Connaol*, Son of *Heber Fionn*, Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*, and reigned five Years. This Prince ordained, that the Gentlemen of *Ireland* should wear a Chain about their Necks, as a Badge of their Quality, and to distinguish them from the Populace: He also commanded several Helmets to be made with the Neck and Forepieces all of Gold; these he designed as a Reward for his Soldiers, and bestowed them upon the most deserving of his Army. He died of the Plague at *Magh Aidhne*.

A. M. 3075. *Aldergoidh*, the Son of *Muineamhoir*, Son of *Cas Cloibach*, Son of *Firarda*, Son of *Rotheachta*, Son of *Rosa*, Son of *Glas*, Son of *Nuagbat*, Son of *Eochaidh*, *Faobhar Glas*, Son of *Connaol*, Son of *Heber Fionn*, Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*, succeeded, and he reigned seven Years; he was the first Prince that introduced the wearing of gold Rings in *Ireland*, which he bestowed upon Persons of Merit that excelled in the Knowledge of the Arts and Sciences, or were any other way particularly accomplished. He was at length killed by *Ollamb Fodhla* in the Battel of *Teamhair* or *Tarah*.

A. M. 3082. *Ollamb Fodhla* was his Successor in the Throne: He was the Son of *Fiachadh Fionnsogthach*, Son of *Seadbna*, Son of *Artri*, Son of *Eibhric*, Son of *Heber*, Son of *Ir*, Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*, and his Reign continued thirty Years. This Prince was possessed of many excellent Qualities, which gave Occasion to his Name, for *Ollamb* signifies a Person that excels in Wisdom and Learning, and *Fodhla* was the Name of the Island; and the Character, by which this Monarch is distinguished in the *Irish* Chronicles, justly merited that Denomination; for he was certainly a Prince of the most comprehensive Knowledge, and of the strictest Virtue that ever sat upon the *Irish* Throne. He instituted the most useful Laws for the Government and the Advantage of his People, and was so indefatigable in his Studies, that he undertook to transmit to Posterity, in a very correct History, the several Travels, Voyages, Adventures, Wars, and other memorable Transactions of all his Royal Ancestors, from *Feniusa Farsa*, the King of *Scythia*, to his own Times; and in order to purge and digest the Records of his Kingdom, he summon'd his principal Nobility, his *Druids*, the *Poets*, and *Historiographers* to meet him in a full Assembly at

Tara

*Tara* once in every three Years, to revise the Body of the establish'd Laws, and to change or correct them as the Exigence of Affairs required: In Testimony of this I shall produce the following Verses of great Antiquity and to be found in Writings of good Authority:

*The learned Ollamh Fodhla first ordain'd  
The great Assembly, where the Nobles met,  
And Priests and Poets and Philosophers  
To make new Laws, and to correct the old,  
And to advance the Honour of his Country.*

This illustrious *Assembly* was called by the Name of *Feis Teambrach*, which signifies a general Meeting of the Nobility, Gentry, Priests, Historians and Men of Learning, and distinguish'd by their Abilities in all Arts and Professions: They met by a Royal Summons in a Parliamentary Manner, once every three Years at the Palace of *Tarah*, to debate upon the most important Concerns of State; where they enacted new Laws, and repealed such as were useless and burthensome to the Subject, and consulted nothing but the publick Benefit in all their Resolutions. In this Assembly, the ancient Records and Chronicles of the Island were perused and examined; and if any Falshoods were detected, they were instantly erased, that Posterity might not be imposed upon by false History; and the Author, who had the Insolence to abuse the World by his Relation, either by perverting Matters of Fact, and representing them in improper Colours, or by Fancies and Inventions of his own, was solemnly degraded from the Honour of sitting in that Assembly, and was dismiss'd with a Mark of Infamy upon him: His Works likewise were destroyed as unworthy of Credit, and were not to be admitted into the Archives, or received among the Records of the Kingdom. Nor was this Expulsion the whole of his Punishment, for he was liable to a Fine or Imprisonment, or whatever Sentence the Justice of the Parliament thought proper to inflict. By these Methods, either out of Fear of Scandal and Disgrace, or of losing their Estates, their Pensions and Endowments, and of suffering perhaps some corporal Correction, the Historians of those Ages were induced to be very exact in their Relations,

L 1

and



and to transmit nothing to After-Times, but what had passed this solemn Test and Examination, and was recommended by the Sanction and Authority of this learned Assembly.

do blig  
teampac.

In this Parliament of *Tarah*, that wise Prince *Ollamb Fodbla* ordained, that a Distinction should be observed between the Nobility, the Gentry, and other Members of the Assembly; and that every Person should take his Place according to his Quality, his Office and his Merit. He made very strict and wholesome Laws for the Government of his Subjects, and particularly expressed his Severity against the Ravishment of Women; which, it seems, was a Piece of Gallantry and a common Vice in those Days, for the Offender was to suffer Death without Mercy: And the King thought fit to give up so much of his Prerogative as to put it out of his Power either to extend his Pardon, or even to reprieve the Criminal. It was a Law likewise, that whoever presumed to strike or assault a Member of the Parliament, during the Time of the Sessions, or give him any Disturbance in the Execution of his Office, either by attempting to rob him, or by any other Violence, he was condemned to die without any Possibility, by Bribes, by Partiality, or Affection, to save his Life, or escape the Sentence.

The Members of this *Triennial* Convention usually met together, tho' not in a Parliamentary way, six Days before the Beginning of the Session; that is, three Days before the Festival of *All Saints*, and three Days after, which time they employed in mutual Returns of Friendship and Civility, and paying their Compliments one to another. A Poet of great Authority, and very ancient, has given the following Account of this Assembly.

*Once in three Years the great Convention sat,  
And for the publick Happiness debate;  
The King was seated on a Royal Throne,  
And in his Face majestic Greatness shone.  
A Monarch for heroick Deeds design'd,  
For noble Acts become a noble Mind:  
About him summon'd, by his strict Command,  
The Peers, the Priests, and Commons of the Land,  
In Princely State and solemn Order stand;*

}



*The Poets likewise are indulg'd a Place,  
 And Men of Learning the Assembly grace.  
 Here every Member dares the Truth assert,  
 He scorns the false, and double dealing Part:  
 For a true Patriot's Soul disdains the Trimmer's Art.  
 Here Love and Union every Look confess'd,  
 And Joy and Friendship beat in every Breast.  
 Justice by nothing bias'd or inclin'd,  
 Is deaf to Pity, to Temptation blind:  
 For here with stern and steady Rule she sways,  
 And flagrant Crimes with certain Vengeance pays;  
 The Monarch ever jealous of his State,  
 Inflexibly decrees th' Offender's Fate,  
 Tho' just, yet so indulgently severe,  
 Like Heaven, he pities those he cannot spare.*

The Place appointed for the Meeting of this Assembly, was a convenient Room in the Palace of *Tara*; <sup>bo tedn-  
 samail na  
 faoute an-  
 ro.</sup> the Apartment was very long, but narrow, with a Table fixed in the middle, and Seats on both sides. At the End of this Table, and between the Seats and the Wall, there was a proper Distance allowed for the Servants and Attendants that belonged to the Members, to go between and wait upon their Masters.

In this great Hall this triennial Parliament assembled, but before they entred upon publick Business, they were entertained with a magnificent Feast, and the Order, wherein every Member took his Place, was in this Manner: When the Dinner was upon the Table, and the Room perfectly cleared of all Persons except the *Grand Marshall*, the principal *Herald* and a *Trumpeter*, whose Offices required they should be within, the Trumpeter sounded thrice, observing a proper Distance between every Blast, which was the solemn Summons for the Members to enter. At the first Sound all the *Shield Bearers*, that belonged to the Princes and the chief of the Nobility, came to the Door, and there delivered their Shields to the *Grand Marshal*, who by the Direction of the *King at Arms*, hung them up in their due Places upon the Wall on the right side of the long Table, where the Princes and Nobility of the greatest Quality had their Seats. When he blew the second Blast, the *Target Bearers*, that attended upon the Generals and the commanding Officers of the Army and of the Militia of the Kingdom, advanced to the Door,

Door, and delivered their Targets in the same manner, which were hung in their proper Order upon the other side of the Table: Upon the third Summons, the Princes, the Nobility, the Generals, the Officers and principal Gentry of the Kingdom, entred the Hall, and took their Places each under his own Shield or Target, which were easily distinguished by the *Coat of Arms* that was curiously blazon'd upon the Outside of them, and thus the whole Assembly were seated regularly without any Dispute about Precedency or the least Disorder. No Person was admitted beside the Attendants that waited, who stood on the Outside of the Table. One End of the Table was appointed for the Antiquaries and the Historians, who understood, and were perfectly skill'd in the Records and ancient Monuments of the Kingdom; the other End was filled by the chief Officers of the Court: and Care was particularly taken that their Debates should be kept secret, for which Reason no Woman was ever to be admitted.

When Dinner was ended and every thing removed, they ordered the Antiquities of the Kingdom to be brought before them, and read them over, and examined them strictly, lest any Falshoods or Interpolations should have crept in; and if they found any Mistakes or false Representations of Facts, occasioned either by the Prejudice or the Ignorance of the Historians, they were scracht out after they had been censured by a select Committee of the greatest Learning, appointed to inspect into those old Records. The Histories and Relations that were surveyed and found true and perfect, were ordered to be transcribed after they had pass'd the Approbation of the Assembly, and inserted in the authentick Chronicles that were always preserved in the King's Palace, and the Book wherein they were written was called the *Psalter of Tara*: This ancient Record is an invaluable Treasure, and a most faithful Collection of the *Irish* Antiquities; and whatever Account is delivered in any other Writings repugnant to this, is to be esteemed of no Authority, and a direct Imposition upon Posterity.

In this solemn Manner did the *Milesians* (a learned and generous People) preserve from the most early Times the Monuments of every memorable Transaction that deserved to be transmitted to the World; and in the Interval between every Session of this Triennial Parliament

Parliament not only the professed Antiquaries, but the Gentry, and Persons of Abilities in all Professions and Capacities, did, with all Diligence and Fidelity, collect what was worthy to be observed in their several Districts and Provinces, and laid their Remarks before the next Assembly to be examined, and if they were approved to be transcribed into the Royal Records for the Benefit and Information of their Descendents. If the same Care had been taken by other Nations, we should not see so many fabulous Histories abroad, that are founded upon no Authority, but supported only by the Effrontery of the Relaters; but this Method it seems was peculiar to the ancient *Irish*, whose Policy and Civil Government have been the Wonder, and ought to have been the Example and Standard of After-ages. And this Form of assembling, and bringing their Antiquities to a publick Scrutiny, was followed till the Time of St. *Patrick*, and continued with some Alterations, but rather with more Care and Exactness than to any Disadvantage, as will be observed in the Course of this History in its proper Place.

I am obliged to mention it as the singular Glory of the *Irish* Nation, that their *Milesian* Ancestors had so great a Veneration, and valued themselves so much upon the Nobility of their Extract, that they preserved their Pedigrees and Genealogies with the strictest Care; and it is evident, that in former Times there were above two hundred principal Annalists and Historians in that Kingdom, who had a handsome Revenue and a large Estate in Land assigned them to support themselves in the Study of Heraldry and Chronology, and to gain a perfect Knowledge in those useful Professions. Every Nobleman of any Quality retained a Number of these learned Men, on purpose to record the Actions of himself and his Family, and to transmit them to Posterity, besides such as were in constant Pay and Attendance for the Service of the Publick. But these private Antiquaries had no Liberty of themselves to enter any Thing upon Record, unless it had been first approved by the great Triennial Assembly, whose Confirmation gave Authority to all the private as well as the publick Records of the Kingdom. The same Generosity and Encouragement was likewise expressed to Men of Learning in other Professions; the *Physicians*, the *Poets*, and *Harp-players* had Estates settled upon them, that they might

not be disturb'd by Cares and worldly Troubles in the Prosecution of their Studies, and they lived without Dependence, and were obliged to no Service; but to employ themselves for the Use of their noble Patrons that retained them. In the Time of War or any other publick Calamities, they were bound to no military Attendance or Contributions; their Persons were inviolable, and it was the greatest of Crimes to kill them, and esteemed Sacrilege, whatever Distress the Publick was in, to seize upon their Estates. So that they were never molested in improving themselves in their several Professions; every one followed his proper Study under these noble Encouragements, which were never wanting when Merit and Industry were to be rewarded. And when an eminent *Antiquary*, a *Physician*, a *Poet*, or *Harp-player* died, his eldest Son was not to succeed him, either in his Estate or his Salary, unless he were the most accomplish'd of the Family in that Profession; for his Successor in his Office, and the Fortune he enjoyed, was appointed to be the most learned and expert of that Tribe he belonged to; which was the Occasion that every Person in the Family studied to perfect himself in the Knowledge of that Art or Science which he proposed to succeed in, in order to obtain the Revenüe and Honour that belonged to it. And this Emulation supported by such Encouragements, advanced all the Branches of Learning to such a Character in that Kingdom, that it became the Center of Knowledge and polite and generous Education, and was so esteemed by all the neighbouring Nations, especially in the *Western* Part of the World; as appears evidently by the general Testimony of foreign as well as domestick Writers, who have undertaken to treat of the Affairs of this Kingdom.

The *military* Discipline in Use among the *Milesians*, is differently related by *Irish* Authors; but they all agree in this, that in the forming of their Armies, and giving Battel to their Enemies, they observed an exact Regularity, and knew well how to improve all Advantages.

The common Soldiers were always perfect in their Exercise, and advanced to fight with great Bravery, and in close Order: Every Company was four or eight deep, according to the Number of Men they had, and the Conveniency and Disposition of the Ground they were to engage upon: It was Death without Mercy, by the mi-

litary Law, for a Soldier to retreat a Foot of Ground, but he was still to advance boldly forwards, if not countermanded by the commanding Officer. They had always a General appointed over the whole Army, whose Orders were absolute, and to be obeyed by all inferior Officers without Dispute or Appeal. Every lower Officer had his *Coat of Arms* blazon'd curiously upon his *Banner*, that he might be distinguished, and either rewarded for his Courage, or punished for his Cowardice in the Time of Battel. They were always attended in their Marches, and when they were engaged, by their *Antiquaries* and *Annalists*, who were employed to take Notice of the Behaviour of every Officer; and when they found a Commander, who had signally distinguish'd himself against the Enemy, his Name, and his Exploit was immediately enter'd into the Records of the Family he belonged to, and transmitted down from Father to Son, in order to inspire the several Branches of that Tribe with Emulation and Courage, and spur them forwards into an Imitation of that great Example: And this Transaction was not only recorded in the private History of the Family, but an exact Copy of it was to be laid before the next *Triennial* Assembly, and upon Approbation to be inserted in the Royal Records of the Kingdom. This Monarch likewise, for the Encouragement of Learning, made a Law, that the Dignity of an *Antiquary*, a *Physician*, a *Poet*, and a *Harp-player* should not be conferred but upon Persons descended from the most illustrious Families in the whole Country.

Having observed that the Princes, the Nobility, and the Gentry of the *Milesians* made use of Coats of Arms, as Badges and Distinctions of their Quality; it will be useful, I am persuaded, as well as entertaining, to take notice from Writers of the best Authority, of the Original of this Practice, and by what means it was first introduced among them.

It must be understood therefore, that the *Israelites*, being oppressed by the Tyranny and Persecution of the *Egyptians*, resolved, under the Conduct of *Moses*, to free themselves from that cruel Bondage; and accordingly the twelve Tribes assembled together under the Command of that great Officer, who designed to deliver them from Slavery, and lead them out of that barbarous Country. In this Expedition, every Tribe had a

*Banner*



*Banner* and a certain *Device* or a *Coat of Arms* distinctly blazon'd upon it: In their March they came to *Capacirunt*, where *Niul*, the Father of *Gadelas*, resided with his People near the Borders of the Red Sea; thro' which, by an Almighty Power, a Way was wonderfully opened, and the whole Nation of the *Hebrews* passed thro', as we have before related.

In Process of Time it happened that *Sru*, a Great-Grandson of *Niul*, was banished out of *Egypt* by the Prince who then reigned, with his whole Family and Descendents; and as he conducted his People out of the Country, he followed the Example of the *Israelites*, and in Imitation had a *Banner* with a *dead Serpent* and the *Rod of Moses* painted upon it for a *Coat of Arms*; and he made choice of this *Device* for this Reason particularly, because *Gadelas*, who was his Grandfather, was bit by a *Serpent*, and the Wound was cured by *Moses*, who laid his wonder-working Rod upon it, and saved his Life. From this Example, the Posterity of *Sru* always made use of *Banners* and *Coats of Arms* as an honourable Distinction of their Families; and this Account is confirmed by the Annals of *Leath Cuin*, which is supported by the additional Testimony of the Book called *Leabhar*

*Leatha Cuin* in this manner. The Author, treating upon this Subject, gives this Account of the *Coats of Arms* of the twelve Tribes. The Tribe of *Reuben* had a *Mandrake* painted upon their Banner, *Simeon* a Spear, *Levi* the Ark, *Judah* a Lion, *Issachar* an Ass, *Zebulun* a Ship, *Naphtali* a Deer, *Gad* a Lioness, *Joseph* a Bull, *Benjamin* a Wolf, *Dan* a Serpent, and *Asher* a Branch of a Vine.

Our *Irish Annals* are very particular in accounting for the Arms and Devices born by several eminent Persons, and the most flourishing Nations. They inform us, that *Hector*, the *Trojan Hero*, bore *sable two Lions combatant*, Or; that *Osiris* bore a *Scepter Royal inscribed on the Top with an Eye*; *Hercules* bore a *Lion rampant* holding a *Battle Ax*; the Arms of the Kingdom of *Macedon* were a *Wolf*; *Anubis* bore a *Dog*; the *Scythians*, who remained in the Country and made no Conquests abroad as the *Gadelians* did, bore a *Thunderbolt*; the *Egyptians* bore an *Ox*; the *Phrygians* a *Swine*; the *Thracians* painted the God *Mars* upon their Banners; the *Romans* an *Eagle*, and the *Persians* Bows and Ar-

rows;

rows. The old Poet *Homer* relates, that several curious Devices were rais'd upon the Shield of *Achilles*, such as the Motions of the Sun and Moon, the Stars and Planets, a Sphere with the celestial Bodies, the Situation of the Earth, the Ebbing and Flowing of the Sea, with other uncommon Decorations and Ornaments that rendered it beautiful and surprising. *Alexander* the Great bore a *Lion rampant*, and ordered his Soldiers to display the same Arms upon their Shields, as a distinguishing Mark of their Valour and military Atchievements; *Ulysses* bore a *Dolphin* and the Giant *Typhon* belching out Flames of Fire; the Arms of *Perseus* was a *Medusa's* Head; *Antiochus* chose a *Lion* and a *white Wand* for his; *Theseus* bore an *Ox*, and *Seleucus* a *Bull*; *Augustus Caesar* bore the Image of the Great *Alexander*; sometimes he laid that aside, and used the Sign *Capricorn*; at other Times he blazon'd a *Globe*, or the *Helm* of a Ship supported commonly by an *Anchor* and *Dolphin*. *Simon* the High Priest of the *Jews*, address'd himself in his Pontifical Robes, which were very splendid and set off with various Ornaments and Representations, when he went out of *Jerusalem* to meet the victorious *Alexander*, who resolv'd to level the City with the Ground; and by the Curiosity and Solemnity of his Habit, he overaw'd that invincible Conqueror; and suppress'd his Designs. In the same Manner almost Pope *Leo* adorn'd himself, and mollified the Anger of *Attila*, that warlike *Scythian*, who threatn'd to sack the City of *Rome*; and Pope *Benedict* used the same Method to prevail upon *Totilas*, a valiant *Goth*, to withdraw his Forces out of *Italy*.

There was a Custom likewise in Use among Warriors of old, to adorn their Helmets with a *Crest*, that represented some savage Beast, or fierce Bird of Prey; by these Figures to distinguish themselves in the Field of Battel, to impress a Dread and Terror upon their Enemies, and to encourage, and with a nobler Air to lead their own Troops, and engage them to fight. Nor were these Representations and Devices confin'd only to set off the *Shields* and *Helmets* of the antient Heroes, but they were at length us'd to adorn the *Prows* of *Ships*, and smaller Vessels; such Figures were from very antient Times, introduced to beautify and grace their *Fore-decks*, and besides the Ornament they gave, they serv'd to distinguish one Ship from another; and

~ this we have Authority to believe, from the Testimony of the *Holy Penman*, who, in the twenty eighth Chapter of the *Acts of the Apostles*, particularly mentions, that the Ship, wherein St. *Paul* was to be convey'd to *Rome*, was distinguished by the Sign of *Castor* and *Pollux*.

Now to shew the insufferable Partiality of the *English* Writers, I am obliged to take Notice, that these Under-Workmen in History, never take upon them to deny the Use of Banners with *Coats of Arms*, among the *Hebrews*, the *Greeks*, the *Romans*, and other Nations; but the *Gadelians* and the old *Irish*, it seems, have no Claim to this honorary Privilege; every Account that is given of this antient and worthy People, they esteem fabulous and they would, if their Arguments and Integrity; were as evident as their Malice, erase the very Name of a *Gadelian* out of all Records, and destroy the Memory of them among Men. But notwithstanding the feeble Efforts of these little Authors, we have the Testimony of the best Historians, to prove that the *Gadelians* were a Family as illustrious, and made as early a Figure in the Chronicles of the World, as any Tribe in the Universe; and, as unquestionable Evidence upon this Subject, they preserved their own Monuments and Records, with the strictest Care, and faithfully delivered them to Posterity; and therefore Prejudice and Ignorance are the only Inducements, that could prevail upon the *English* Writers, who pretend to treat of the *Irish* Affairs, to deduce their Accounts of *Ireland* from no higher a Period, than the Reign of *William* the Conqueror; and because the Histories of their own Country cannot be traced with any tolerable Authority farther than the Time of that Prince, therefore it must needs follow that the *Irish* Annals are of the same modern Date, and every Chronicle beyond that Point of Time must be a Fable and Romance. How conclusive this Argument is, any unprejudiced Person will easily determine; however this is certain, that the old Chronicles of *England* were destroyed by the victorious *Romans*, *Goths*, *Saxons*, *Germans*, *Normans*, and other Foreigners, who made a Conquest of the Kingdom; but the *Irish* Records were kept sacred, and were never in the Hands of any invading Enemy, nor was the Island ever absolutely subdued, so as to be under a foreign Yoke from the first Arrival of the *Mislesians*, unto this Day.

ni bairt bier  
re-ordinat  
allimprace  
3 ean ran  
mbr-af 3  
clana 5dol  
viol.

leimr 5nlor  
7 3 5 n eni  
ad eile 3  
breatan  
anyo.

It is certain therefore that the *Milesians*, from the Time they first conquered the Island, down to the Reign of *Ollamb Fodhla*, made use of no other Arms of Distinction in their Banners than a *Dead Serpent* and the *Rod of Moses*, after the Example of their *Gadelian* Ancestors. But in this great *Triennial* Assembly at *Tara*, it was ordained by a Law, that every Nobleman and Great Officer should, by the learned Heralds, have a particular *Coat of Arms* assigned him according to his Merit and his Quality, whereby he should be distinguished from others of the same Rank, and be known to any Antiquary or Person of Learning wherever he appeared, whether at Sea or Land, in the Princes Court, at the Place of his own Residence, or in the Field of Battel. Upon the Death of this great Monarch the Crown devolved by an Hereditary Right upon his Son.

*Fionnachta* succeeded in the Government of Ireland; he was the Son of *Ollamb Fodhla*, Son of *Fiacha Fionsgothach*, Son of *Seadhna*, Son of *Artri*, Son of *Eibhric*, Son of *Heber*, Son of *Ir*, Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*; his Reign continued fifteen Years, tho' some Authors assert that he filled the Throne twenty Years. The Reason why he was distinguished by this Name, was because Abundance of *Snow* fell upon the Island in his Reign, and for a long Time covered the whole Country. There is an Account, but of no Manner of Authority, that when this *Snow* came to thaw and dissolve, it turned into natural and perfect *Wine*. This is certainly a Fiction, for tho' the Word *Fion* in the *Irish* signifies *Wine*, yet by adding another *n* to it, and spelling it thus, *Fionn* (which is the first Syllable of this Prince's Name) it signifies *white*; the following Word *achta* or *sneachta* is the genuine *Irish* for *Snow*, and these Words when they are joined are pronounced *Fionnachta* not *Fionachta*; so that by observing the proper spelling of this Name, the Writers of the best Credit are induced to believe that this Monarch obtained his Name from the great Quantity of *Snow* that fell in his Time; and reject as idle and fictitious, the other Opinion, which asserts that he was so called, because the *Snow*, when it dissolved, became true *Wine*. This Prince died at *Magh Inis*, and there was buried.

*Slanoll* was his Successor; he was another Son of *Ollamb Fodhla*, Son of *Fiacha Fionsgothach*, Son of *Seadhna*, Son of *Artri*, Son of *Eibhric*, Son of *Heber*, Son of *Ir*, Son

do bi ylam-  
ce mox d5  
gat neac an  
oiriis ne na  
lin.

of *Milesius*, and he wore the Crown of *Ireland* fifteen Years. The Reason why he was distinguished by the Name of *Slanoll*, was because the People of the Country enjoyed so perfect a State of *Health*; that very few or none of them fell sick or died of any malignant Distemper during his whole Reign; for the Syllable *Oll* in the *Irish* is the same as *great* in the *English*, and *Slan* signifies *Health*, which by being transposed and joined with the other Word, is pronounced *Slanoll*. This Prince died at *Tara* in the House of *Modhbhuarda*, but the Distemper that occasioned his Death was never known.

A. M. 3143.

*Geide Ollgothach* succeeded him; he was a third Son of *Ollamb Fodhla*, Son of *Fiachadh Fionnsgothach*, Son of *Seadhna*, Son of *Artri*, Son of *Eibhric*, Son of *Heber*, Son of *Ir*, Son of *Milesius*, and he sat upon the Throne seventeen Years. He received the Name of *Geide Ollgothach*, because the People of *Ireland* in his Time had a Custom of being very loud and noisy when they spoke; for the Syllable *Oll* (as was observed before) signifies *great*, and the Word *Gothach* signifies *talking* or *speaking*, which, when they are joined together, sound *Ollgothach*, that is, *great* or *loud talking*. This Prince was at length killed by *Fiachadh* the Son of *Fionachta*.

A. M. 3160.

*Fiachadh*, the Son of *Fionachta*, Son of *Ollamb Fodhla*, Son of *Fiachadh Fionnsgothach*, Son of *Seadhna*, Son of *Artri*, Son of *Eibhric*, Son of *Heber*, Son of *Ir*, Son of *Milesius*, obtained the Crown, and reigned twenty Years, as some of the Chronicles assert; tho' upon a strict Inspection, I am induced to believe that he governed four Years more; for the *regal* Table admits of no *Interregnum*, and the Book of the Reigns of the *Irish* Kings speaks very dubiously concerning the Reign of this Prince; it seems to intimate that there were other Competitors with him, who raised Pretences to the Government, and particularly observes that *Bearngall* the succeeding Monarch made War upon him for some Years before he lost the Sovereignty: The four Years therefore that passed while the Crown was in Dispute may be placed to the Reign of either of these Princes for the Reasons abovementioned. This King was at length dethroned, and slain by *Bearngall*, the Son of *Geide Ollgothach*.

A. M. 3184.

*Bearngall* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Geide Ollgothach*, Son of *Ollamb Fodhla*, Son of *Fiachadh Fionnsgothach*, Son of *Seadhna*, Son of *Artri*, Son of *Eibhric*,

Son



Son of *Heber*, Son of *Ir*, Son of *Milesius*; his Reign continued twelve Years, and he was killed by *Oilloll*, the Son of *Slanoll*.

*Oilloll*, the Son of *Slanoll*, Son of *Ollamb Fodhla*, Son of *Fiachadh Fionnsgothach*, Son of *Seadhna*, Son of *Artri*, Son of *Eibhric*, Son of *Heber*, Son of *Ir*, Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*, sat next upon the Throne; he reigned sixteen Years, and lost his Life by the Hands of *Siorna*, Son of *Dem*.

*Siorna Saoghalach* succeeded; he was the Son of *Dein*, Son of *Rotheachtuig*, Son of *Maoin*, Son of *Aongus Ollmucbaidh*, Son of *Fiacha Labhrune*, Son of *Smiorguil*, Son of *Eanbotka*, Son of *Tighernmhas*, Son of *Follain*, Son of *Eithriall*, Son of *Irial Faidh*, Son of *Heremon*, Son of *Milesius* King of *Spain*; and his Reign lasted one and twenty Years. He was called *Siorna Sioghalach* because he lived to an exceeding great Age, beyond any of his time, as his Name plainly imports. He was slain at last by *Rotheachtach*, the Son of *Roan*, at *Aillin*, as the old Poet gives us to understand in the following Lines taken out of a Poem which begins thus, *Eire ard Inis na Roig*.

*Siorna reigned one and twenty Years,  
And prosperously wore the Irish Crown,  
But tho' long lived, he died a fatal Death,  
Unfortunately slain by Rotheachta  
At Aillin.*

*Rotheachta* succeeded him; he was the Son of *Roan*, Son of *Faillbhe*, Son of *Cas Cead Caingniadh*, Son of *Aildergoid*, Son of *Muineambon*, Son of *Cas Clothach*, Son of *Firarda*, Son of *Rotheachta*, Son of *Rosa*, Son of *Glas*, Son of *Nuaghath Deaglamh*, Son of *Eochaidh Faobharglas*, Son of *Connaol*, Son of *Heber Fionn*, Son of *Milesius*. His Reign was not long, for he governed but seven Years, and died at last terribly, for he perished by Fire at *Don Sobhairce*.

*Eilm* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Rotheachta*, Son of *Roan*, Son of *Faillbhe*, Son of *Cas Cead Caingniadh*, Son of *Aildergoid*, Son of *Muineambon*, Son of *Cas Clothach*, Son of *Firarda*, Son of *Rotheachta*, Son of *Rosa*, Son of *Glas*, Son of *Nuaghath Deaglamh*, Son of *Eochaidh Faobharglas*, Son of *Connaol*, Son of *Heber Fionn*, Son of *Milesius*. He was slain,

O O after

after a Reign of one Year, by *Giallach*, Son of *Oliolla Olchaoim*.

A. M. 3241. *Giallach* obtained the Crown; he was the Son of *Oliolla Olchaoim*, Son of *Siorna Saoghlach*, Son of *Dein*, Son of *Rotheachta*, Son of *Maoin*, Son of *Aongu Ollmuchaidh*, Son of *Fiachadh Labhriane*, Son of *Smiorguill*, Son of *Eanbotha*, Son of *Tighernmas*, of the Posterity of the Line of *Heremon*; His Reign continued nine Years, and he was killed by *Art Imleach* at *Moighe Muadh*.

A. M. 3250. *Art Imleach* succeeded; he was the Son of *Eilm*, Son of *Rotheachta*, Son of *Roain*, Son of *Faige*, Son of *Cas Cead Chaigniudh*, Son of *Aildergoid*, a Descendent from *Heber Fionn*; he sat upon the Throne two and twenty Years, and was killed by *Nuadha Fionn Fail*.

A. M. 3272. *Nuadha Fionn Fail* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Giallcha*, Son of *Oliolla Olchaoim*, Son of *Siorna Saoghlach* of the Line of *Heremon*; his Reign lasted twenty Years, and he was slain by his Successor *Breafrigh*, the Son of *Art Imleach*.

A. M. 3292. *Breafrigh*, the Son of *Art Imleach*, Son of *Eilm*, Son of *Rotheachta*, Son of *Roan*, a Prince of the Posterity of *Heber Fionn* succeeded; he governed the Kingdom nine Years, and fought many successful Battles against the Pyrates that infested the Coasts. He was at length killed by *Eochaidh Apthach* at *Carn Chluaim*.

A. M. 3301. *Eochaidh Apthach* obtained the Crown; he was the Son of *Fin*, Son of *Oliolla*, Son of *Floinruadh*, Son of *Roithlain*, Son of *Marineadh*, Son of *Suchin*, Son of *Riaglan*, Son of *Eochaidh Breac*, Son of *Luigheach*, Son of *Ith*, Son of *Breogan*; his Reign was but short, for he sat upon the Throne but one Year. He was distinguished by the Name of *Eochaidh Apthach*, because during the short Time of his Reign, there was a great Mortality among his Subjects, that swept away most of the Inhabitants; for once in every Month the whole Island was infected with a malignant Distemper that was incurable; the Word *Apthach* in *Irish* signifies a *Plague* or *Infection*; he was killed by *Fionn* Son of *Bratha*.

A. M. 3302. *Fionn*, the Son of *Bratha*, Son of *Labhra*, Son of *Carbre*, Son of *Ollamb Fodhla*, a Descendent in Succession from *Ir* the Son of *Milesius*, obtained the Crown; he governed twenty Years, and was slain by *Seadhna Jonaraicc*.

A. M. 3322. *Seadhna Jonaraicc* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Breifrigh*, Son of *Art Imleach*, of the Line of *Heber Fionn*, and he reigned twenty Years; he was called *Seadhna Jonaraicc*,

*naaraicc*, because he was the first Monarch of *Ireland* that settled a constant Pay upon the Officers and Soldiers of his Army, and maintained them by a fix'd Salary according to the Quality of their Posts, and Commissions. He likewise ordained military Laws, and instituted a Form of Discipline that was a Standard to the *Milesians* for many Ages. This unfortunate Prince was inhumanly murdered by his Successor, and had his Limbs violently drawn asunder, which put him to inexpressible Torture.

*Simeon Breac*, by this barbarous Act, obtained the Crown. He was the Son of *Nuadba Fionn Fail*, of the Line of *Heremon*. His Reign continued six Years; but the divine Vengeance pursued him in an exemplary Manner, for he was seized by *Duach Fionn*, the Son of his Predecessor, who justly punished him with the same ignominious Death he had inflicted upon his Father, and ordered his Body to be torn to Pieces. A. M. 3344.

*Duach Fionn*, Son of *Seadna Jonaraicc*, Son of *Breife*, a Descendent from *Heber Fionn*, succeeded and reigned five Years. He was slain by *Muireadbach Bolgrach*. A. M. 3348.

*Muireadbach Balgrach* was his Successor; he was the Son of the cruel *Simeon Breac*, of the Posterity of *Heremon*; he governed the Kingdom four Years, and then he was killed by *Eadna Dearg* the Son of *Duach Fionn*. A. M. 3353.

*Eadna Dearg*, the Son of *Duach Fionn*, the Son of *Seadna Jonaraicc*, of the Line of *Heber Fionn*, succeeded and reigned twelve Years; the Reason why he was distinguished by the Name of *Eadna Dearg*, was because he was remarkable for a *fresh* and *sanguine* Complexion. It was in the Reign of this Prince that a Mint was erected, and Money coined at *Airiod Ross*. He did not die by the Sword as did most of his Predecessors, but was destroyed by the Plague, which depopulated most Part of the Island, and was buried at *Sliabh Mis*. A. M. 3357.

*Lughaidh Fardboinn* obtained the Government; he was the Son of *Eadna Dearg*, Son of *Duach Fionn*, of the Posterity of *Heremon*, and was Monarch of the Island nine Years; he was called *Lughaidh Fardboinn* from the Colour of his Hair, which was a very dark brown, for the Word *Fardboinn* or *Dubhdhonn* in *Irish* is the same as *dark brown* in *English*, which gave Occasion to his Name. This Prince was killed by *Siorlamb*, the Son of *Fm* at *Rath Clochair*. A. M. 3369.

*Siorlamb*

*Siurlamb*, the Son of *Fin*, Son of *Bratba*, Son of *Labradba*, Son of *Cairbre*, Son of *Ollamb Fodbla*, a Descendent from *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*, succeeded in the Throne, and governed the Island sixteen Years. He was known by the Name of *Siurlamb* from the extraordinary *Length of his Hands*; for the Word *Sior* in the *Irish* Language has the Signification of *long* in *English*, and *Lamb* is the same with *Hands*. And indeed this Monarch was called so with great Propriety; for Nature had furnished him with Hands so long, that when he stood upright, his Fingers would touch the Ground. His Successor *Eochaidh Uairceas* slew him, and put an End to his Reign.

*Eochaidh Uairceas* seized upon the Crown; he was the Son of *Laighdkioch Jardbann*, Son of *Eadhna Dearg*, a Descendent from *Heber Fionn*, and ruled the Kingdom twelve Years. He was called by the Name of *Eochaidh Uairceas*, from a Sort of *Skiffs* or *Small Boats*, of which he was the Inventor. This Prince was banished or driven out of the Kingdom of *Ireland* two Years before he came to the Government; and when he was obliged to quit the Island, he summon'd, and took with him a select Number of his Followers and Friends, and in thirty Ships well man'd with choice Troops and expert Mariners, he set to Sea. This was his Security all the Time of his Banishment; but he would often come upon the Coasts, and spoil the Inhabitants; and for the better Conveniency of landing his Men, he invented a Sort of *Cock Boats*, that were easy to manage, and covered them with the Skins of Beasts. By this Device he would frequently set a Body of his Men on Shore, and made great Depredations upon the Coasts, and plundered all the maritime Parts of the Country. This Invention gave Occasion to his Name, for the Word *Uairceas*, or (as others pronounce it) *Fuarceas*, signifies a *cold Skiff*, or a *Cock-boat* in *English*, because these small Vessels were used in the *cold* and extremest Weather for the Conveniency of landing. These Skiffs are known in the *Irish* Language by the Name of *Curachs* or *Cura-chain*, and are made use of in some Parts of the Island to this Day. This *Irish* Monarch was slain by *Eochaidh Fiadhbmuine*.

*Eochaidh Fiadhbmuine*, and his Brother *Conuing Beg Aylach* obtained the Sovereignty; they were the Sons of *Duach Teambrach*, Son of *Muireadhaigh Bogracb* Son of

*Simeon*

*Simeon Breac*, of the Royal Line of *Heremon*. They reigned joint Monarchs of the Island for five Years; The eldest of these Princes was distinguish'd by the Name of *Eochaidh Fiadhbhuine*, because he took great Pleasure in the chasing of *Deer* and other Beasts, which he frequently hunted in the woody and wild Parts of the Country; for the Word *Fiadh* in *Irish* signifies a *Deer* and *Muine* is the same as a *Wood* or desolate *Wilderness* in *English*, which Words when they are joined make *Fiadhbhuine*. These Brothers lost the Kingdom, and *Eochaidh Fiadhbhuine* was slain by *Luighaidh Lambdhearg* the Son of *Eochaidh Vairceas*.

*Luighaidh Lambdhearg* the Son of *Eochaidh Vairceas*, A. M. 3411. a Prince of the Posterity of *Heber Fionn* succeeded, and he reigned seven Years. He was known by the Name of *Luighaidh Lambdhearg*, because he had a remarkable red Spot upon one of his Hands. He was killed by *Conuing Beg Aglach*, who made War upon him, and by that Means revenged his Brother's Death.

*Conuing Beg Aglach* obtained the Crown; he was the A. M. 3418. Son of *Duach Teambarach*, Son of *Muirreadbach Bolgrach*, Son of *Simeon Breac*, of the Line of *Heremon*. When he had overcome his Competitor, he resumed the Government, and reigned ten Years. He received the Name of *Conuing Beg Aglach*, because he was a Prince of an undaunted Spirit, exposed his Life with the greatest Bravery, and was always seen in the Heat of Action; for the Words *Beg Aglach* signify resolute and fearless. This Monarch was of a strong Constitution of Body, and was inspired with a Soul capable of designing and executing the greatest Actions; the Glory of the *Irish* Nation was raised to a considerable Height during the Reign of this King, who not only fought successfully against the Enemies of his Country, but governed his Subjects at home with Justice and Moderation, and ruled absolutely in the Hearts and Affections of his People. But these excellent Qualities could not protect him from the Attempts of *Art*, who succeeded him, and slew him, as a Poet of great Antiquity observes in this Manner.

*Conuing the Brave, with Love of Glory fir'd,  
Oppress'd by Force, triumphantly expir'd;*



*He rais'd his Courage for the last Debate,  
And with a Princely Soul undaunted met his Fate:  
Slain by the Sword of Art.*

- A. M. 3428.* *Art* succeeded to the Crown; he was the Son of *Luighdheach Lamdhearg*, of the Line of *Heber Fionn*, and governed the Kingdom six Years; he lost his Life by the Hands of *Duach Laghrach*, who, with the Assistance of his Father, slew him.
- A. M. 3434.* *Fiachadh Tolgrach*, the Son of *Muireadbach Bolgrach*, Son of *Simon Breac*, Son of *Aodbain Glas*, a Prince of the Posterity of *Heremon*, was his Successor; and was Monarch of the Island for seven Years. His Life and Reign were ended by the Sword of *Oilioll Fionn*, who slew him.
- A. M. 3441.* *Oilioll Fionn* possessed the Throne; he was the Son of *Art*, the Son of *Luighdheach Lamdhearg*, of the Line of *Heber Fionn*; and he wore the Crown nine Years, but was killed by *Airgeadmbar*, with the Assistance of *Fiacha* and his two Sons.
- A. M. 3450.* *Eochaidh*, the Son of *Oilioll Fionn*, Son of *Art*, Son of *Luighdheach Lamdhearg*, of the Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, succeeded; and he governed the Island seven Years. He would not admit of a Partner in the Throne, and refused to allow *Airgeadmbar* a Share in the Government. He made a Peace with *Duach*, which continued but a short Time; for he was afterwards slain by him after a Reign of seven Years.
- A. M. 3457.* *Airgidmbar* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Siorlamb*, Son of *Finn*, Son of *Bratha*, a Prince of the Posterity of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius* King of *Spain*. He filled the *Irish* Throne for twenty three Years; and was at last killed by *Duach Laghrach*, and by *Lughaidh Laighdhe*.
- A. M. 3480.* *Duach Laighrach* seized upon the Crown; he was the Son of *Fiachadh Tolgrach*, Son of *Muireadbach Bolgrach*, Son of *Simeon Breac*, descended from the Family of *Heremon*, and governed the Island ten Years. The Reason why he was distinguished by the Name of *Duach Laghrach*, was because he was so strict and hasty in the Execution of Justice, that he was impatient, and would not admit of a Moment's Delay, till the Criminal was seiz'd and tried for the Offence; for the Word *Ladhrach* in the *Irish* Language signifies *speedy* and *sudden*, which gave Occasion to his Name. He was killed by *Lughaidh Laige*.

*Lughaidh*

*Lughaidh Laighe* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Eochaidh*, Son of *Oiliolla Fionn*, of the Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, and he was Monarch of the Island seven Years. An old Book called the *Etymology of Names* asserts, that this *Lughaidh* was one of the five Sons of *Daire Domh-theach*, and that all the Brothers went by the same Name: The same Author relates that a certain *Druid*, who had the Skill of Prophecy, foretold to *Daire*, the Father, that he should have a Son, whose Name should be *Lughaidh*, who should one Day sit upon the Throne of Ireland. *Daire*, it seems, afterwards had five Sons, and the more effectually to bring about this Prediction, he gave the same Name to every one. When the five Brothers were come to a Maturity of Years, *Daire* took an Opportunity to call upon the *Druid*, and inquired of him which of his Sons should have the Honour of being Monarch of the Island? The *Druid*, instead of giving him a direct Answer, ordered him to take his five Sons with him on the morrow to *Taillean*, where there was to be a general Convention of all the principal Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom, and while the Assembly sat, he should see a *Fawn* or young *Deer* running thro' the Field, which would be pursued by all the Company; his five Sons likewise would run among the rest, and whosoever of them overtook and killed the *Fawn*, the Crown should be his, and he should be sole Monarch of the Island. The Father followed the Direction of the *Druid* with great Exactness, and accordingly the next Day set out with his five Sons, and came to *Taillean*, where he found the Assembly sitting; and looking about him, he spied the *Fawn* running over the Fields, and the whole Assembly left their Debates and pursued her; the five Brothers ran among the rest, and followed her close till they came to *Binneadair*, now called the Hill of *Hoath*; here a Mist, that was raised by Enchantment, separated the five Sons of *Daire* from the other Pursuers, and they continued the Chase, and hunted her as far as *Dail Maschorb* in *Leinster*, where *Lughaidh Laighe* (as the *Druid* had foretold) overtook the *Fawn*, and killed her. From this Transaction this Prince was called *Lughaidh Laighe*, for the Word *Laighe* in the *Irish* signifies a *Fawn*. There goes an old Story of no great Credit concerning this Monarch, which, tho' it be a Fiction, I shall mention it out of Respect to its Antiquity, for it is a Fable of many hundred Years

*fairbhine an  
dairidh do la-  
gaidh laighe.*

*Cairgead mae  
de an mteir-  
oc an ro.*

fabal Sge-  
ul filisea-  
fa ro an  
yeannad  
ro.

Years standing. This Prince, it seems, as he was hunting in one of the Forests of *Ireland*, and was divided from his Retinue that followed him, was met by an old wither'd Hag, who, after some Discourse with him, prevail'd to be admitted into his Embraces, and accordingly they retired to a private Place of the Wood, and when the King attempted to caress her, he was surpris'd with the Appearance of a most beautiful young Lady, and instead of a deformed old Woman, he found a lovely Maid in his Arms. This Vision represented, as the Legend observes, the Genius of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, which this Monarch obtained with great Difficulty and Danger; but tho' he underwent very grievous Hardships before he had the Crown fix'd upon his Head, yet he was amply rewarded for his Sufferings, with the Possession of the Sovereignty and the Riches of one of the most fruitful Islands in the whole World. So far is the Relation of this ancient Writer, but I much question his Fidelity, and every one is left to judge for himself: But notwithstanding the Account given of this Prince in the forementioned Book of *Etymology*, that he was the Son of *Daire Doimnibach*, yet I am apt to believe, that the King I am speaking of was a Person different from *his Son*, and that the Prediction of the *Druid* belonged to another Man of the same Name. *Lughaidh Laighe*, after a Reign of seven Years, was slain by *Aodb Ruadh*, Son of *Badhburn*.

A. M. 3497. *Aodb Ruadh* succeeded in the Government; he was the Son of *Badburn*, Son of *Airgeadhmbair*, Son of *Siorlamb*, Son of *Finn*, Son of *Bratha*, Son of *Labhradh*, Son of *Carbre*, Son of *Ollamb Fodbla*, of the Family of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius* King of *Spain*; he was Monarch of the Island one and twenty Years, and was unfortunately drowned at *Eafruadh*.

A. M. 3518. *Diobhorba*, the Son of *Diomain*, the Son of *Airgiodhmair*, Son of *Siorlamb*, of the Posterity of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, succeeded him; he likewise governed the Kingdom one and twenty Years, and died of a malignant Distemper at *Eambain Macha*.

A. M. 3539. *Ciombaoth* Son of *Fionntan*, Son of *Airgiodhmair*, Son of *Siorlamb*, Son of *Finn*, a Descendent from *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, succeeded, and reigned over the Island twenty Years; he was at last destroyed by the Plague at *Eambain Macha*.

*Machadh Mongruadh* obtained the Crown; she was the Daughter of *Aodbuaradh*, Son of *Badhbhuirn*, Son of *Airiodmbhair*, Son of *Siorlamb*, a Descendent from *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*; and she reigned seven Years. It was in the Government of this Princess, that the Royal Palace of *Eambain* was erected; and the Reason why that magnificent Structure was called *Eambain Macha* is thus related in the *Irish* Records. There were three Princes in the Province of *Ulster*, who for a long Time waged continual Wars for the Government of the Island: Their Names were *Aodb Ruadh*, the Son of *Badburn*, from whom *Easruadh* obtained its Name; *Diathorba*, the Son of *Demain*, from *Visneach Meath*, and *Ciombaoith*, the Son of *Fionntan* from *Fionnabbair*. These three Kings, after they had worn one another out with struggling for the Crown, came at last to an Agreement, and consented that every one should reign Monarch successively for the Space of twenty or one and twenty Years, and then he was to resign the Government to his Successor; and by the Force of these Articles they had all their Turns, and sat upon the Throne according to the Treaty. *Aodb Ruadh* was the first of these three Princes that wore the Crown, and died, but left only a Daughter behind him, whose Name was *Macha Mongruadh* or the *Red-hair'd Princess*. *Diathorba* according to the Agreement, obtained the Government; and reigned the whole Time that was allotted him; then he resigned, and by the Articles *Ciombaoith*, who was the third Prince in Succession reigned his Time; for *Aodhruadh* died, as we observed before, and left no Son behind him. But the Princess *Macha Mongruadh* claimed the Throne, as she was the Daughter of *Aodhruadh*, and insisted upon her Right of Inheritance, because her Father, if he had lived, should have succeeded next. *Diathorba* meeting with this unexpected Opposition, sent for his five Sons, who were Persons of great Courage and Ambition; and when he had informed them of the Design of this young Lady, they all came to a Resolution to stand by the former Treaty, and vindicate their Pretensions by the Sword; for they could not bear that a Woman should fill the Throne of *Ireland*, and attempt to govern so brave and warlike a People.

The Princess *Macha* was a Lady of an invincible Spirit, of a strong robust Constitution, able to endure Hardships, of a bold enterprising Genius, and always

mentioned with great Honour and Respect by the *Irish* Historians. As soon as she heard of the Preparations of *Diathorba* and his Sons, she resolved not to be surprised; and therefore she sent a Summons to the principal Nobility, who took her Part, and Commissions to raise a strong Body of Troops, and with all possible Expedition to attack the Enemy. *Diathorba* and his Sons were supported by a numerous Army well disciplined; and in a short Time the two Competitors met, and their whole Forces engaged, and a most desperate Battel was fought, when the Princess *Macha* obtained a complete Victory. This Success fixed the Crown firmer upon her Head, and gave Peace to the Kingdom for some Time; for *Diathorba* did not long survive the Misfortune, but died with Grief, and left his five Sons, whose Names were *Baath*, *Buadbach*, *Bras*, *Uallach*, and *Borbchas*, to insist upon their Claim, and when Opportunity offered, to defend their Right.

tu5 Maeda  
elana bio  
torba eait  
fritaeac da  
ceile, asur  
do bnyead  
elaim bioeg-  
ba.

It was not long before these five Brothers, by the Interest of their Friends, raised a considerable Body of Men, and resolved once more to appear in the Field, and decide their Pretensions to the Crown. But before they offered Battel, they dispatched a Herald to the Princess, to demand the Government and the Possession of their Right, to which they had so just a Claim, not only by the Treaty, but upon the Account of their Family, as they were descended from the Royal Line of the *Irish* Monarchs. The Princess, instead of complying with the Summons, sent the Messenger away with Indignation, and told him she would soon chastise his Masters for their Insolence, at the Head of her victorious Army; and she was as good as her Word, for soon after both Armies engaged, and fought with great Bravery, and Victory was a long Time in Suspense, for no less than the Kingdom of *Ireland* depended upon the Event, and was to be the Prize of the Conqueror: But after a bloody and sharp Action, the confederate Army of the *Brothers* was broken, and a general Rout followed, and by this Success the Princess got absolute Possession of the Throne.

tu5 Maeda  
an dapa  
Maedam an  
elana bio-  
egba.

After this Defeat, the Brothers were close persued, and forced to conceal themselves in the Woods and Marshes of the Country; but they were discovered to the Queen, who resolved upon a Stratagem to apprehend them, very dangerous and difficult in the Execution. It seems  
after



after this Battel, she was pleased to marry *Giombaoth*, the Son of *Fionnan*, and to him she left the Government of the Kingdom and the Command of the Army, while she took upon her self to go in Quest of the five *Pretenders*, and if possible to secure them from any farther Attempts upon the Crown. To bring this to pass, she laid by her Robes of State, and disguised her self in an ordinary Habit suitable to her Design, and changed the Colour of her *Hair*, which was remarkable for its *Redness*, by powdering it with the Flour of *Rye*: In this obscure Dress she sets forward without any Attendants towards the Wood of *Buirrinn*, where the Brothers were concealed; and, after some Search, she found them together boiling Part of a wild *Boar* which they had hunted and killed. When she advanced near them, she was spied by the young Men, who were surpris'd at the Sight of a Woman in so solitary a Place; but when they recovered themselves, they civilly asked her to sit down and partake of what Entertainment she found, for their Misfortunes had oblig'd them to that Way of Life, and their desperate Circumstances could supply them with no other Provision. She courteously accepted of the Invitation, and after she had eaten, one of the Brothers, with an Air of Gallantry, said that the Lady, tho' she was none of the handsomest in the Face, yet she had fair lovely *Eyes*, and therefore declared he could not withstand the Temptation, and resolv'd to have a nearer Acquaintance with her. Accordingly he takes her by the Hand, and leads her to a close Thicket at some Distance, and attempted to debauch her; but she observing her Opportunity, laid hold upon his Arms, and after some Struggle, by main Force overcame him, and having brought Cords with her for the Purpose, she bound him fast, and returned to the four Brothers.

They were somewhat surpris'd to see the Lady without her Gallant, and asking what was become of her Lover, she told them she supposed he was ashamed to appear and shew his Face, after he had condescended so much below his Quality as to converse with so mean a Person; and this Reply she delivered in so modest a Manner, that they all resolv'd in Turns to withdraw with her, and use her as they pleas'd, which they attempted one after another, but she play'd the same Part with them all, and so secur'd them. By this dangerous Stratagem

celo thia  
amof gla-  
im, acce-  
on gdeaf  
elana dion-  
tonba.

tagem she brought them all away Prisoners with her, and returned to Court, where her Husband, and the principal Nobility, and Commons of the Kingdom, were impatiently expecting the Event. When she had related the Particulars of the Adventure, she was applauded and congratulated by the whole Company, and with a noble Carriage she delivered up her Captives.

The five Competitors for the Crown being thus apprehended, the Council of the Kingdom sat to determine what Sentence should be passed upon them; and they unanimously agreed that the Peace of the Government would never be settled, unless they were all put to Death. But the Queen, who was of a merciful Disposition interposed, and as she had hazarded her own Royal Person to secure them, she desired their Lives might be saved; for it would be contrary to the established Laws and Customs of the Land to proceed to Execution; and insisted that instead of Death, their Punishment might be to erect a stately Palace in that Province, where the Prince should always keep his Court. They agreed to the Justice of her Request, and upon that Condition the five Brothers saved their Lives.

daon t d e la  
na d i o t d b a  
le M a c a  
e a m n a c a b o  
t o g b a i l .

The Queen undertook to draw the Plan of this Structure, which she did with her *Bodkin* that she wore in her Neck, and serv'd to bind her *Hair*. The Name of this Royal Fabrick is *Eamhain Macha*, and it was so called from the *Pin* or *Bodkin* that the Queen used in laying out the *Area* of it; for *Eo* in the *Irish* Language signifies a *Needle* or *Bodkin*, and *Muin* is the same as *Neck* in *English*, which Words together sound *Eomuin*, and sometimes it is read *Eamhain*, because it signifies the *Pin* of the *Neck*, which gave Occasion to the Name: This Word, with the Name of the Queen joined to it, was the Reason that this Building was called *Eamhain Macha*.

There is another Account mentioned in some *Irish* Chronicles different from what we have now related, and asserts that the Palace of *Eamhain Macha* receives its Name from a Woman so called, who was Wife to *Cruin*, the Son of *Adnamhuin*. This Woman, it seems, was obliged (for what Reason is uncertain) to run a Race with the Horses of *Connor*, King of *Ulster*, and (as the Story goes on) she outran them, and came first to the Goal; she was with Child at this Time, and near her Delivery; and when she fell in Labour, she

was delivered of Twins, a Son and a Daughter. The Barbarity of this Action, and the Pains she suffered in Travail, so incensed the unfortunate Woman, that she left a Curse upon the Men of *Ulster*, and Heaven heard her; for the Men of that Province were constantly afflicted with the *Pains of Child-bearing* for many Years, from the Time of *Connor*, who then reigned in *Ulster*, to the Succession of *Mal*, the Son of *Rochruidhe*. This *Irish* Heroine governed the Kingdom seven Years in a magnificent Manner: She was the Delight of her Subjects, and the Terror of her Enemies, but was at last slain by *Reachtaiucc Righdbearg*, who succeeded her.

*Reachtaiucc Righdbearg* was the next Monarch. He was the *A. M. 3566* Son of *Lughaidh Laighe*, Son of *Eochaidh*, Son of *Oilioll Finn*, Son of *Lughaidh Lamdbearg*, Son of *Eochaidh Uairceas*, a Prince of the Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, and governed the Kingdom twenty Years; he was distinguished by the Name of *Reachtaiucc Righdbearg*, because one of his Arms was exceeding Red; for the Word *Rig* in the *Irish* Language signifies an *Arm*: He was killed by *Ugaine More* in Revenge for the Death of his Foster Mother.

*Ugaine More*, who was surnamed the *Great*, obtained *A. M. 3586* the Crown. He was Son of *Eochaidh Buaidhaig*, Son of *Duach Laidhrach*, a Descendent from the Royal Line of *Heremon*, and he was Monarch of the Island thirty Years, or, as some Writers assert, he governed forty Years: He was known by the Name of *Ugaine More*, because his Dominions were enlarged beyond the Bounds of his Predecessors; for he was the sovereign Prince of all the Western *European* Isles. This Prince had a very numerous Issue; for he had five and twenty Children, two and twenty Sons, and three Daughters.

When his Sons were grown up, each of them took upon himself to raise a Company of Soldiers, and in a military Manner they would march thro' the Kingdom, and raise Contributions upon the Country for their Support, and no sooner had one Troop left a Place, but another came and consumed all the Provisions that were left: This Oppression was insupportable, and the Subjects were forced to represent their Grievance to the King, and complain of the distressed State of the Country: Upon this Remonstrance *Ugaine* convened his Council, and consulted how he should suppress these violent Measures of his Sons, that were of the most destructive

R r

Consequence

do poim tu-  
 goine m-  
 eipe na cuig  
 randa plet-  
 eibb.

Consequence to his People. It was their Advice, that the Kingdom of *Ireland* should be divided into five and twenty Parts, and shared equally between his Children, under this Restriction, that every one of the young Princes should content themselves with the Portion assigned them, and confine themselves within the Bounds of their own Territories, without presuming to inroach upon the Dominions of their Neighbours. In Confirmation of this Division we meet with the following Lines in a very old Poet.

*Ugaine the Monarch of the Western Isle,  
 Concern'd at the Oppression of his People,  
 Divided into equal Parts his Kingdom  
 Between his five and twenty Children.*

And by the Rules of this Division, the publick Taxes and Revenues of the Island were collected by the King of *Ireland* for the Space of three hundred Years afterwards, from the Time of this Monarch, down to the *Provincial* Ages.

do eug eo-  
 baib feibh  
 oib coigead  
 eiploib do  
 bneam d'g-  
 rle d'oi-  
 bial.

I confess the Kingdom of *Ireland* was also divided in a Manner different from this; but that Division was not made by *Ugaine* the Great, but by *Eochaidh Feidhblioch*, who, by his Royal Donation, conferred the Country upon his prime Ministers. The Province of *Ulster* he settled upon *Fergus*, the Son of *Leide*; the Province of *Leinster* he bestowed upon *Rossa*, the Son of *Fergus Fairge*; the two Provinces of *Munster* he gave to *Tighearnach Teadbbeanach* and *Deagadh*: He divided the Province of *Conacht* between three of his Favourites, whose Names were *Fiodbach*, the Son of *Feig*, *Eochaidh Allat*, and *Teinne* Son of *Conrach*; but a particular Account will be given of these Transactions, when the Course of this History brings us to treat of the Reign of *Eochaidh Feidhblioch*, a succeeding Monarch in the Government of the Kingdom.

*Ugaine* left behind him two Sons *Laoghaire Lorck*, and *Cobhbhaigh Caolmbreag*, by whom the Royal Line of *Heremon* was continued; and to these Princes all the future Branches of that Family owe their Descent. After a long Reign this great Monarch was slain by *Badhbhbhadh*, the Son of *Eochaidh Buaidhaigh*, but he did not succeed him.

*Laoghaire*

*Laoghaire Lorck*, the Son of *Ugaine More*, laid Claim to the Government, and fixed himself in the Throne: He was the Grandson of *Eochaid Buaidhaig*, Son of *Duach Ladhrach*, a Descendent from *Heremon*, and he wore the Crown two Years. His Mother was a French Princess, her Name was *Ceasair Cruach*, a Daughter of the King of France; she was the Wife of *Ugaine More*, and had Issue this Monarch and his Brother *Cobthaig Caolmbreag*. This King was distinguished by the Name of *Laoghaire Lorck*, because he seized upon the Murderer of his Father, who was *Badhbhcadh*, the Son of *Eochaid Buaidhaig*, and slew him; for the Word *Lorck* in the Irish Language signifies *Murderer* or *Slaughter*. But he was afterwards most perfidiously slain himself by his Brother *Cobthaig Caolmbreag* at *Didbion Riogh* near the Bank of the River *Bearbha*. The Circumstances of this inhuman Act are thus related in the Records of Ireland. The King *Laoghaire Lorck* was very kind and indulgent to his Brother, and settled a princely Revenue upon him; but his Bounty and Affection met with very ungrateful Returns; for *Cobthaig* envied his Brother the Enjoyment of the Crown, and nothing less than the whole Kingdom would satisfy his Ambition; and because he could not obtain his Ends, he perfectly languished for Grief and Madness; for his Constitution was broken, and his Body daily wasted, which brought him into so bad a State of Health, that his Life was despaired of. As soon as the King heard of his Sickness, and the melancholy Circumstances he was in, he resolved to pay him a Visit, and set out with his Body Guards and his household Troops about him for that Purpose. When he came to his Bed-side, the sick Prince observing that his Brother was attended by Men in Arms, asked the Reason of such a military Retinue, and seemed to resent it, as if he suspected his Fidelity, and dared not trust himself with a sick Man without such a warlike Attendance: The King courteously answered, that he never entertained the least Suspicion of his Loyalty or Affection, but he came in that Manner only for State, and to keep up the Dignity of his Royal Character; but rather than make him uneasy he promised him next the Visit he made him, that he would be without a Guard; and so, with the most tender and compassionate Expressions, he took his Leave.

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The perfidious *Cobhthaig*, reflecting that his Brother would soon come to visit him alone and unattended, resolved upon his Death; but not relying upon his own Capacity, he communicated his Design to a wicked *Druid*, and advised with him in what Manner he should accomplish his Purpose: The infamous *Soothsayer*, instead of detecting the Treason, encouraged the Conspirator, and upon Consultation it was agreed, that *Cobhthaig* should feign himself to be dead, and when his Brother came to lament over his Body, he was to stab him with a Poniard that was to be concealed by him. And this barbarous Stratagem had its desired Success; for when the News of his Brother's Death came to *Laoghaire*, he immediately came to the Body, and as he was lying upon it, expressing his Sorrow, his Brother secretly thrust his Poniard into his Belly, and stabbed him.

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But he thought he was not sufficiently secure in his Usurpation by the Murther of the King, unless he likewise destroyed all the Princes of the Blood, that might claim a Right, or give him any Disturbance in the Throne; he therefore murdered *Oilioll Aine*, the Son of *Laoghaire*, and designed likewise to take away the Life of a young Prince, who was the Grandson of his Brother, but he was saved almost by a Miracle; for when the cruel Tyrant sent for the Child, he forced him to eat a Piece of the Heart of his Father and Grandfather, and to torture him the more, he caused him to swallow a living Mouse, and by such inhuman Methods he resolved to destroy him: But by a strange Providence the Child was so affrighted with these Barbarities, that he seemed distracted, and, by the Convulsions and Agonies he was in, he perfectly lost the Use of his Speech, which when the Usurper perceived he dismissed him with his Life; for he thought he would never recover his Senses, and therefore could not be able to assert his Right, or give him Disturbance in the Government.

This young Prince was called *Maoin*, and was conveyed away by his Friends to *Corcadiubbne* in the West of *Munster*, where he was entertained for some Time by *Scoriat*, who was the King of that Country; from thence he removed into *France* with nine of his Friends (tho' some Antiquaries are of Opinion that he went into the Country of *Armenia*) who soon after his Arrival discovered

vered to the *French* King the Circumstances of his Royal Birth, and the tragical History of his Misfortunes. The King was so affected with this Relation, that he received him into his Service, and soon after advanced him to be his General in chief, and fixed him in the Command of his whole Army. He had by this Time his Voice restored, and in this Post he behaved with so much Bravery and Conduct, that his Character and Reputation increased daily, and was carried abroad into all the neighbouring Countries, and at length came to the Knowledge of the loyal Party in *Ireland*; many of whom resorted to him to avoid the Tyranny of the Usurper. The Monarch *Laobhaire Lorck* being murth'rd after a short Reign of two Years, his Brother seized upon the Crown.

*Cobhbhach Caolbreag* set the Crown upon his own Head; he was the Son of *Ugaine More*, the Son of *Eochaidh Buaighaig*, of the Posterity of the Royal Line of *Heremon*, and notwithstanding his Usurpation, and the Disaffection of his Subjects, he reigned thirty Years; and, if we believe some Chronicles, he governed the Kingdom fifty Years. His Mother, as was observ'd before, was the Daughter of the King of *France*. He was known by the Name of *Cobhbhach Caolbreag*, because his Body was so macerated and worn away by Envy and Ambition, that he seem'd to be a walking Shadow; he had no *Flesh* upon his Bones, nor scarce any Blood in his Veins, and the Consumption had reduced him to a Skeleton; for the *Irish* Word *Caol* signifies *Small* and *Lean*, and the Place where he resided in his Sickness was called *Maghbreag*, for which Reason he had the Name of *Caolbreag*; After this long Reign Vengeance overtook him, and he was set upon and slain by *Maoín*, who was called *Labbhradh Loingseach*, as a just Sacrifice to the Ghosts of his Father and Grandfather.

*Labbra Loingseach* was his Successor; He was a Son of *Oilioll Aine*, Son of *Laoghair Lorck*, Son of *Ugaine More*, and he wore the Crown eighteen Years, but fell at last by the Sword of *Melge* the Son of *Cobhbhach Caolbreag*. This Monarch was a learned and valiant Prince, and acquired such Reputation when he commanded the Army of *France*, that *Moriat*, the Daughter of *Scoriat*, the King of *Fearmorck*, in the West of *Munster*, charm'd with the Relation of his Exploits, conceived a wonderful Affection for him, and fell desperately in Love with

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him: And to discover her Passion and recommend her self to his Esteem, she imployed an eminent Musician that was then in *Ireland*, whose Name was *Craifcine* to carry over a Letter to *France*, with a noble Present of Jewels, and to deliver them in a proper manner to the General, as a Testimony of her Love and the Value she had for him. The Musician faithfully executed his Message, and arriving in *France*, he found a Way to have Access to *Labhradh*: When he was introduced to him, he delivered his Credentials, and then took out his Harp, and played a most ravishing Tune, which was the better received, because he sung with it a *Poem* that was composed by the young Lady in Praise of the heroic Actions of the General. From this happy Adventure, *Labhradh* resolved to vindicate and prosecute his Right to the Crown of *Ireland*: And when he had communicated his Design to some of the prime Ministers of the *French* Court that were his Friends, and concerned for his Interest, they took an Opportunity to remind the King of the Pretensions of *Labhradh* to the *Irish* Throne, and desired he would be pleased to assist him in the Recovery of his Right. The King convinced of the Justice of the Cause, complied with their Request, and gave immediate Orders for a Body of two thousand and two hundred choice Troops to be ready, and a Number of Ships to transport them. With these Forces *Labhradh* set to Sea, and landed in the Harbour of *Wexford*. Upon his Arrival he had Intelligence that *Cobhbach Caolbreag*, who had usurped the Crown, resided at that Time at *Didbion Riogh*, where he kept his Court, attended by his Ministers and Nobility, who had submitted to his Tyranny. *Labhradh* resolved, if possible, to surprise him, and therefore marched with all Expedition, and came upon him unprepared, and put the old Usurper and all his Retinue to the Sword: He immediately insisted upon his hereditary Right, and was proclaimed King of *Ireland*.

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After he had killed the Tyrant in his own Court, surrounded by his Nobles, and cut off all his Favourites and Attendants, the Chronicles relate that a certain *Druid*, surprised at the Bravery of this Action, asked some of his Retinue, who was that gallant Hero, who had the Policy to design, and the Courage to execute such an Exploit; he was answered that the Name of the General was *Luingscach*. Can *Luingscach* speak, says the Soothsayer?

It was replied he can; for which Reason that Monarch was called by the Name of *Labhradh Luingseach*; for *Labhradh* in the *Irish* Language signifies to *speak*; and by this additional Title was *Maoin* always distinguished in the History of *Ireland*, wherever he is mentioned.

This Prince was the Inventor of a Sort of *green-headed Partisans*, in the *Irish* called *Laighne*, and gave Orders that they should be used by his whole Army; from these military Weapons it was, that the Inhabitants of the Province of *Gailian*, now called *Leinster*, were known by the Name of *Laighne*, as the Poet makes the Observation in this Manner.

*Two thousand and two hundred of the Galls,  
With broad green Partifans of polished Steel,  
Landed at Wexford on the Irish Coasts,  
From whence the Province called of old Gailian,  
Obtained the Name of Leinster.*

When *Labradb* had destroyed the Tyrant, and fixed himself in quiet Possession of the Government, he resolved to make his Addresses to the young Princess, who so generously offered him her Love, and first inspired him with Resolution to vindicate his Right to the Crown of *Ireland*; he therefore waited upon her with a noble Retinue, and took his Favourite *Crasine* the Musician with him, and had the Happiness to be well received by the Father of the Lady, and they were soon married with great Solemnity.

If a Reason should be demanded why this Monarch, when he was forced to fly out of *Ireland*, chose rather to apply for Refuge to the *French* Court, than to retire to any other Country: We are to consider that he was nearly related by Blood to the *French* King; for it was observed before, that *Ceafair Chruithach* was a Daughter of a King of *France*, and was married to *Ugainé More*, by whom she had two Sons *Laoghaire Lairc* and *Cobhthach Caolbreag*; and this Prince, whose Life we are writing, was the Grandson of *Laoghaire Lairc*.

Another Inducement, which prevailed upon him to fly to *France* for Protection, was because there was a very strict League and familiar Intercourse between the Province of *Leinsler* and the Kingdom of *France*; and it is observed that every Province of *Ireland* maintained likewise a Correspondence with the Country beyond the

the Seas that was nearest to it. The *O Neills* were in Friendship and Alliance with *Scotland*, the Province of *Munster* with *England*, the Province of *Ulster* with *Spain*, the Province of *Conacht* with *Wales*, and the Province of *Leinster*, as before mentioned, with the Kingdom of *France*. This friendly Intercourse is taken notice of by the famous *Torna O Mac Cionaire*, who in his Time was one of the principal Poets and Antiquaries of the Island; the Lines are these,

*Each of the Irish Provinces observ'd  
A strict Alliance with the neighbouring Nations;  
O Neills corresponded with the Scots,  
The Men of Munster with the valiant English;  
Th' Inhabitants of Ulster lov'd the Spaniards,  
Of Conacht, liv'd in Friendship with the Britains,  
Of Leinster, traded safely with the French.*

We are to remark in this Place, that all the Princes that govern'd the Province of *Leinster* were the lineal Descendents of this *Irish* Monarch *Labhradh Loingseach*, except *O Nuallain*, who was of the Posterity of *Cobhbhach Caolbreag*.

From this mutual Correspondence and Intercourse, kept up between the Provinces of *Ireland*, and the neighbouring Countries, arose that Resemblance to be observ'd in the Carriage and Deportment of the *Irish* with the Manners of those adjacent Foreigners.

The Names of the principal Families, that were to be found in *Leinster* are these following; *O Connor Falie* with all the Branches derived from him; he was descended from *Rosa Failge*, the eldest Son of *Cathadir More*; the Family of the *Cavanaghs Murplays*, the *Toolls* in *Irish* *O Tuatbaill*, the *O Branains*, the *O Macgiolka Patricks*, in *English* *Fitz Patricks*, the *O Dunn*, *O Demsey*, *O Dwir*, *O Ryans* and the several Descendents that came from them. The greatest Part of the Inhabitants of *Leinster* proceeded from *Cathair More*, but *Macgiolla Patrick* did not descend from him; for the Branches parted in *Breasal Breac* the Son of *Fiachadh Fobharaicc* fourteen Generations before *Cathair More*, including *Cathair* and *Breasal*. This *Breasal Breac* we are to observe had two Sons; their Names were *Lughaidh Lothfin* and *Conla*: the Province of *Ulster* was divided between these Brothers; *Lughaidh* and his Posterity possess'd

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the Country from the River *Bearbha* Eastwards, and from thence Westwards to *Slighdhala*, was the Portion of *Conla* and his Descendents. And this Division is taken Notice of by a very antient Poem, which begins in this manner *Naomsheanchus Insi Fail*.

*Lughaidh and Conla, Princes of Renown,  
Descended from the valiant Brcasal Breac;  
The Men of Ossery were derived from Conla,  
And Lughaidh eldest of the two began  
The noble Family of the O Dwyres.*

This ancient Tribe of the *O Dwyres*, was divided in the fifth Degree before *Cathaoir More* in this Manner: *Cathaoir More* was the Son of *Feidhlim Fiorurglas*, Son of *Cormac Geallagaoth*, Son of *Niachorb*, Son of *Conchorb*, who had a Son that was called *Cairbre Cluthiochair*, who was the great Ancestor of this illustrious Family. The Tribe of the *O Ryans* descended from *Natby* Son of *Criomthun*, Son of *Eana Cinnsealach*, the seventh Generation from *Cathaoir More*. From the second Son of *Ugaine More* whose Name was *Cobhbach Caolbreag* were derived the Posterity in general of *Siol Cuin*, and likewise the Tribes of *Fiachadh Sreabbhine* and *Eochaidh Dubhlein*, and all other Branches of those Families that descended from *Capa*, as will more particularly be observ'd, when the Genealogy of the *Milesians* comes to be considered.

There is a Fable to be met with in the ancient Manuscripts of *Ireland*, that relates to this Prince *Labhradh Loingseach*; No doubt it refers to some very remarkable Transactions in his Reign; but at this Distance of Time it is impossible to trace out the Moral of it; every Person therefore is at Liberty to draw what Consequences from it he pleases: I shall transcribe it faithfully, observing only that some of the Incidents of it are very curious, and because of its Antiquity it may not be unworthy of a Place in this History.

As the Story goes therefore, this Monarch *Labhradh Loingseach*, had *Ears* of a very immoderate Length which resembled the *Ears* of a *Horse*; and to conceal this Deformity from the Notice of his Subjects, when he had his Hair cut, the Person that served him in that Office was sure to lose his Life; for he was immediately kill'd lest he should discover this Blemish in the King and

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expose him to the Contempt and Ridicule of his People. It was therefore a Custom among the Hair-cutters of the Kingdom, to determine by Lots who should succeed in this desperate Employment, which always became vacant every Year; for once within that Time the King was constantly used to have his Hair cut from below his Ears, and by that means exposed the Length of them to his Barber. It happened upon a Time that the Lot to officiate in this Post fell upon a young Man, the Son of a poor Widow, and he was her only Child; the sorrowful Mother apprehending the Loss of her Son, was overwhelmed with Grief, and applied herself to the King, lamenting her Misfortune, and intreating his Royal Mercy to spare her Child. This moving Scene had that Effect as to obtain the Life of the young Man; but it was upon this Condition, that he would never divulge a *Secret* that should be committed to him, nor reveal what he should observe under the Penalty of forfeiting his Life. The young Man joyfully complied with these Terms, which he thought very favourable and easy to observe, and cut the King's Hair; but when he discovered his Ears, he was somewhat surpris'd, but outwardly took no Notice: Yet when he came home, he fell desperately sick (for *Secrecy*, it seems, was ever a Burthen) and he was so oppress'd with the Weight of the Discovery he made, that he would admit of no Remedy, and was reduced to the very Brink of Death. His Mother, sorely afflicted with this Misfortune, applied her self for Advice to an eminent *Druid*, who was a *Physician* in the Neighbourhood, who came to the Youth, and soon perceived that his Distemper was not the Effect of a natural Cause; and examining his Patient, he told him his Art was ineffectual in his Case, for his Recovery was impossible, unless he was disburthened of an important *Secret*, which lay heavy upon him; but even the Remedy was as bad as the Disease, for if he divulged it he was sure to lose his Life; and this miserable Difficulty, and the Apprehension of Death either Way, was the true Occasion of his Sickness. The *Druid* represented the Circumstances of the young Man to his Mother, and by way of Remedy contriv'd a Method between the two Extremes that would answer the Purpose, and have the desired Effect; he observ'd to her, that tho' her Son was under strict Obligations not to discover the *Secret* to any Person living,

living, yet this did not hinder but he might divulge and repeat it in the open Air; and therefore he advised him to go to a neighbouring Wood, and when he came to a Meeting of four Highways, to turn upon the Right Hand, and the first Tree he came to, to apply his Lips close to it, and whisper the *Secret*. The young Man exactly followed the Prescription of the *Druid*, and a *Willow Tree* being the first he came to; he delivered himself of the *Secret*, and found immediate Ease, for he soon recovered of the Distemper, which began to leave him in his Return home.

Soon after this it happened, that the *Harp of Craiftine*, the King's principal Musician, was broke, and therefore he came to this Wood to cut down a Tree, that was proper to make him a new Instrument; and by chance he made choice of the *Willow* that the young Hair-cutter <sup>da éladir</sup> had whispered the Royal Secret to; the Musician carried the Tree home, and made a Harp out of it; and when it was strung and put into Order, it would sound but one Tune, the Words of which in *Irish* are these, *da Chluais Chapuil ar Labhradh Loingseach*, which is as much as to say in *English*, *Labhradh Loingseach has the two Ears of an Horse*. This surprised the Musician, and the Fame of this wonderful Instrument was carried all over the Kingdom; others of the same Profession attempted to touch it, but it was always in the same Tune, which so amazed the King, that he thought the Hand of Heaven was concerned in this Miracle, which he believed was sent by the Gods, who were offended at his Cruelty, for putting to Death so many of the young Men of his Kingdom, only to conceal his Deformity from his Subjects. And this Reflection had that Impression upon his Mind, that he repented of the Barbarity he had used, and openly exposed his *long Ears* <sup>o fadóir</sup> all his Life afterwards. This Relation, tho' according <sup>ecol eirioir</sup> to the Letter of it, must be false, yet I am apt to believe, <sup>da ceaf ní</sup> could we come at the genuine *Moral* of it, the Circumstances of the Fable would appear very beautiful. <sup>naib mairt</sup>

*Meilge Molbthach* got Possession of the Throne of *A. M. 3666.* *Ireland*; He was the Son of *Cobhbthach*, Son of *Cobhthaig Caolbreag*, of the royal Line of *Heremon*; His reign continued seven Years till he was kill'd by *Mogha Chorb*, the Son of *Cobthaig Caomb*. <sup>da éladir</sup>

*Modhchorb* was his Successor, he was the Son of *A. M. 3673.* *Cobhthaig Caomb*, Son of *Reachtia Rughdeard*, Son of *Lughaidh* <sup>capuil an labra loingseach</sup>

ghaidh Laighde, a Prince of the Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, he govern'd the Kingdom seven Years: and was slain by *Aongus Olamb*.

A. M. 3680. *Aongus Olamb* Son of *Oiliolla*, Son of *Labhradh Loingseach* a Descendent from *Heremon* succeeded; He reigned eighteen Years and fell by the Sword of *Jaran Gleofathach*, Son of *Meilge*.

A. M. 3698. *Jaran Gleofathach* was the succeeding Monarch; He was the Son of *Meilge*, Son of *Cobhthach Caolbreag*, Son of *Ugaine More*, lineally descended from *Heremon*. His Reign continued seven Years, and he was slain by *Feachorb*, Son of *Modchorb*. The Reason why he was distinguished by the Name of *Gleofathach*, was, because he was a Person of great Wisdom and Judgment, of fine natural Parts, which he improved by Study, and became a very accomplish'd Prince.

A. M. 3705. *Feachorb* obtain'd the Crown; He was the Son of *Modchorb*, Son of *Cobhthach Caomb*, of the royal Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, and he govern'd the Island eleven Years. He lost his Crown and his Life by the Sword of *Conla*, the Son of *Jaran Gleofathach*.

A. M. 3716. *Conla Cruaidh Cealgach* Son of *Jaran Gleofathach*, Son of *Meilge*, Son of *Cobhthach Caolbreag*, Son of *Ugaine More*, a Prince descended from *Heremon*, was his Successor; He wore the Crown four Years: but the Manner of his Death is not recorded in the History of the *Irish* Monarchs. It may be supposed he died naturally because he was succeeded by his Son.

A. M. 3720. *Oilioll Cashtiaclach* Son of *Conla Cruaidh Cealgach*, Son of *Jaran Gleofathach*, of the royal Line of *Heremon*, was the succeeding Prince; He reigned over the Kingdom twenty five Years, and was slain by *Adambar Foltchaoin* at *Tara*.

A. M. 3745. *Adambar Foltchaoin* sat next upon the Throne; He was the Son of *Feachorb*, Son of *Mogha Chorp*, a lineal Descendent from *Heber Fionn*, and reigned five Years.

A. M. 3750. *Eochadh Foltleathan* succeeded; He was the Son of *Oiliolla Cashtiaclach*, Son of *Conla Cruaidh Cealgach*, a Prince of the Posterity of *Heremon*, and was Monarch of the Island eleven Years; He was slain by *Feargus Fortambuill*.

A. M. 3761. *Feargus Fortambuill* was his Successor; He was the Son of *Breafal Breac*, Son of *Aongus Gailine*, Son of *Oiliolla Brachaim*, Son of *Labhradh Loingseach*, descend-

from the Line of *Heremon*, and reigned twelve Years. He was known by the Name of *Feargus Fortambull*, because he was a Prince of exceeding great Strength of Body, and brave beyond any of his Time, but fell at last by the victorious Sword of *Aongus Tuirmbeach*. *bu g eadma enod an ríog foin.*

*Aongus Tuirmbeach* got Possession of the Throne; *A. M.* 3773. he was the Son of *Eochaidh Folleathan*, Son of *Oilliolla Caisbiaclach*, of the Posterity of *Heremon*, and he governed the Kingdom thirty Years; and according to the Computation of other Writers he was Monarch sixty Years. He was distinguished by the Name of *Aongus Tuirmbeach* upon the Account of the invincible Shame he conceived for violating the Chastity of his Daughter and getting her with Child. He could never bear to be seen publickly, he was so much concern'd at that abominable Act, tho' it was committed when he was overcome with Wine. The Effect of this incestuous Crime was a Son, whose Name was *Fiachadh Fearmara*. We are to observe, that the Word *Tuirmbeach*, in the *Irish* Language, signifies a Sense of *Bashfulness* or *Shame*, which gave Occasion to the Name of that Prince: *bu g eadma leif an rí- oí, mac do fáil pena in éirí foin.* And the Son the young Lady bore him was called *Fiachadh Fearmara*, because he was conveyed away privately, and exposed in a small Boat, without any Attendants, to the Mercy of the Sea. But Care was taken to furnish him with very rich Mantles and other Conveniences; and to defray the Expence of his Maintenance and Education, there was a Number of very valuable Jewels laid by him, which was a Testimony of his Extraction, and that he was a Child of no ordinary Quality. In this Manner the Infant was exposed; and must have perished, if the Boat had not soon been discovered, floating upon the Sea, by a Company of Fishermen, who instantly made up to it, and took out the distressed Babe, and provided a Nurse for him with all the Care that the Meanness of their Condition was capable of. This *Aongus Tuirmbeach* had a Son that was legitimate, whose Name was *Eanda Aighnach*, from whom the Tribe of *Sioll Cuin* in general descended. This *Irish* Monarch was slain at *Tara*.

*Conall Callambrach* succeeded in the Throne; he was *A. M.* 3803. the Son of *Eidirsgeoil*, Son of *Eochaidh Folleathan*, Son of *Oilliolla Caisbiaclach*, descended from the Line of *Heremon*, and governed the Kingdom five Years. He



was killed by *Niadh Seadhambuin*, a Prince of the Posterity of *Heber Fionn*.

A. M. 3808. *Niadh Seadhambuin* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Adamar Foltchaoin*, Son of *Firchorb*, descended from *Heber Fionn*, and reigned over the Island seven Years. In his Reign the wild Hinds would come of their own Accord from the Woods and Mountains, and suffer themselves to be milked as quietly as Cows and the tamest Cattel: They, it seems, were under the Enchantment of a Woman who was the Mother of this Monarch, and a Sorceress of Distinction in those Times, whose Name was *Fleidhis*. But her Art could not preserve the Life of her Son; for he was slain by *Eanda Aighnach*.

A. M. 3815. *Eanda Aighnach* obtained the Crown; he was the Son of *Aongus Tuirmbeach Teambarach*, Son of *Eochaidh Foltleathan*, descended from the Royal Stem of *Heremon*, and was possessed of the Government eight and twenty Years. This Prince was called by the additional Name of *Eanda Aighnach*, because he was of a very bountiful Disposition, and exceedingly munificent in his Donations; for the Word *Aighnach* in the *Irish* Language signifies *liberal, free, and hospitable*. This Monarch lost his Life by the Hands of *Criomthán Crofgrach*.

A. M. 3843. *Criomthán Crofgrach* filled the Throne of Ireland; he was the Son of *Feidhlim Fortruim*, Son of *Fergus Fortambail*, Son of *Breasal Breac*, of the Line of *Heremon*, and governed the Kingdom seven Years. He was distinguished by the Title of *Criomthán Crofgrach*, because he behaved with that Bravery at the Head of his Army, that he was victorious in every Battel he fought; for the Word *Crofgrach* in the *Irish* Tongue signifies *Slaughter* and *Bloodshed* in the *English*. He was slain by *Rogerus*, the Son of *Sithry*.

A. M. 3850. *Rughruidhe*, surnamed the Great, was his Successor; he was the Son of *Sithrighe*, Son of *Dubh*, Son of *Fombar*, Son of *Argéadmbar*, Son of *Siorlamb*, Son of *Finn*, descended from the illustrious Line of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*. He was the Monarch of the Island thirty Years; but if we give Credit to another Computation, he sat on the Throne seventy Years, and died a natural Death at *Argiod Ros*.

A. M. 3880. *Jonadhmbar*, the Son of *Niascagbambuin*, Son of *Adamar*, derived from the princely Stock of *Heber Fionn*,

*Fionn*, succeeded; he reigned three Years, and lost his Life by the Sword of *Breafal Bodhiabha*.

*Breafal Bodhiabha* fixed himself in the Government; *A. M.* 3883. he was the Son of *Rugbraidh*, Son of *Sithbridh*, Son of *Dubb*, Son of *Fombar*, Son of *Argeadmbar*, Son of *Siurlamb*, descended lineally from *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*. He was known by the Name of *Breafal Bodhiabha*, because, during his Reign, a most pestilential Murrain happened, which raged with that Fury among the Cows and *Black Cattel*, that most of them thro' the whole Kingdom died; for the Word *Bodhiabha* in the *Irish* Language signifies the Mortality of *Kine* or *black Cattel*. This Prince, after a Reign of eleven Years, was killed by *Lughaidh Luaghne*.

*Lughaidh Luaghne* seized upon the Crown. He was *A. M.* 3894. the Son of *Jonadhbmar*, Son of *Niascaghambuin*, of the Royal Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, and governed the Kingdom five Years; he was slain by *Congall Claringneach*.

*Congall Claringneach*, the Son of *Rugruidh*, Son of *Sithbridh* Son of *Dubb*, descended from the Line of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*, succeeded; his Reign continued thirteen Years, and he fell by the Sword of *Duach Dalta Deagbadh*.

*Duach Dalta Deagbadh* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Carbre Loisgleathan*, Son of *Lughaidh Luaghne*, Son of *Jonadhbmar*, of the Royal Stock of *Heber Fionn*; he ruled the Kingdom of *Ireland* ten Years. This Prince was distinguished by the Title of *Duach Dalta Deagbadh*, because his Father *Carbre Loisgleathan* had two Sons, the Monarch we are speaking of, whose Name was *Duach*, and another that was called *Deagbadh*. These two Brothers were Princes of great Valour and military Conduct, and were equally worthy of the *Irish* Throne. But the Right of Succession was invested in *Duach*, who was the elder Brother, and therefore he seized upon the Sovereignty, and fixed himself in Possession: But the younger Brother *Deagbadh* resolved to dispute it with him in the Field, and, to support his Pretensions, he raised an Army. But before he had put himself at the Head of his Forces, his Brother, who was the reigning Prince, was advertised of the Treason, and sent for him to Court, but in a friendly Manner, as if he understood nothing of his Purpose. He accordingly came, and was no sooner arrived but he was taken into Custody, and had his *Eyes* put out to make him incapable

incapable to pursue his ambitious Designs; but still he allowed him a handsome Revenue, and maintained him like a Prince all his Life-time. From this Transaction *Duach* received the additional Names of *Dalta Deagbadh*; for the Word *Dalta* in the *Irish* Language signifies a *Foster Father*, which this Prince was to his Brother *Deagbadh*, by the Care he took of him as long as he lived. But this Method to secure himself in the Throne, could not defend him from the Attempts of *Fachtna Fathach*, who slew him, and reigned after him. This Event concerning the Blindness of *Deagbadh* is observed by an ancient Poet in these Lines.

*Deaghadh invited to his Brother's Court,  
Inhospitably had his Eyes scoop'd out;  
His Crimes did scarce deserve a milder Fate,  
For Treason must be punished without Mercy.*

A. M. 3922. *Fachtna Fathach* was the succeeding Monarch; he was the Son of *Rughruidhe*, Son of *Sifthrigh*, Son of *Dubb*, Son of *Fombar*, Son of *Airgeadmbar*, a Descendent from the Line of *Ir*, the Son of *Milefius*, King of *Spain*, and governed the Kingdom eighteen Years: He was known by the Name of *Fachtna Fathach*, because he was a Prince of great *Learning* and *Wisdom*, and possessed of many excellent Accomplishments: He established the most wholesome Laws for the Government of his People, whom he ruled with signal Prudence and Moderation. For the Word *Fathach* in the *Irish* Language signifies *Wisdom* or *Discretion*. This Monarch, notwithstanding his princely Qualities, was slain by *Eochaidh Feidhlioch*.

A. M. 3940. *Eochaidh Feidhlioch* fill'd the Throne: He was the Son of *Finn*, Son of *Finlogha*, Son of *Roighneim Ruadh*, Son of *Easamhuin Eambna*, Son of *Blathachta*, Son of *Labbra Luirc*, Son of *Eana Aighneach*, Son of *Aongus Tuirmbeach*, descended from the Line of *Heremon*; and he govern'd the Kingdom twelve Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Benia* the Daughter of *Criomhthan*; and the Reason for which he was known by the Name of *Eochaidh Feidhlioch*, was because he labour'd under so melancholy a *Dejection of Spirits*, that he was quite oppress'd with Vapours, and would draw out his *Sighs* to a very immoderate Length; for the Word *Feil* in the *Irish* Language signifies as much as a great Length

in *English*, and *Uch* or *Och* is the *Irish* term for a *Sigh*, which gave Occasion to his Name. He contracted this Sadness of Mind upon the Loss of three of his Sons, who were Princes of very promising Hopes, but were unfortunately slain in the Battel of *Dromchriadh*, and this Habit of *Sighing* that was upon him followed him to his Grave. These three Brothers were called the three *Fineambna's*, because they were all born at a Birth; for the Word *Amaoin* in the *Irish* Tongue signifies to *Deny*, for none of them ever *denied* the extraordinary Manner of their Birth, but took Pleasure upon all Occasions to relate the Circumstances of it. The Names of these young Princes were *Breas*, *Nar*, and *Lothar*, and their Mother was *Clothfionn*, a very virtuous Lady, the Daughter of *Eochaidh Uchleathan*. nd tpi fine-  
amnd an ro  
7ē.

This Monarch *Eochaidh Feidblioch*, was the first that laid out the Division of the *Irish* Provinces: The Province of *Conacht* he divided into three Parts between three of his Favourites; their Names were *Fiodbach*, Son of *Feig*, *Eochaidh Allat* and *Tinne* the Sons of *Conrach*; he conferred upon *Fiodbach* all the Country from a Place called *Fiodbach* to *Limerick*; upon *Eochaidh Allat* he bestowed the Territory from *Jorrus Dombnan* and *Gallway* to *Daibh* and *Drobbaois*; to *Tinne* the Son of *Conrach Magh Sainbh* he gave the Tract of Land that extends from *Fiodbach* to *Teamhair Broghaniadh*; he likewise gave him Possession of all the ancient Territories of *Taödm*. *Feargus*, the Son of *Leighe*, was settled by his Authority in the Province of *Ulster*; he invested *Rossa* the Son of *Feargus Fairge* in the Province of *Leinster*; the two Provinces of *Munster* he bestowed upon *Tigbernach Teadbhbeamach* and *Deaghadah*; and this Division and Investiture of the Country continued during his whole Reign. tus for Co-  
shais feib-  
lioc coige-  
ad eipin do  
speam or-  
airlib ba-  
oibil.

*Eochaidh*, after he had thus divided the Kingdom, went into *Conacht*; for he determined to erect a royal Palace in that Province, and there to keep his Court: Upon his Arrival he summon'd the three petty Princes of the Province to attend him, and informing them of his Design, required that they should agree upon a proper Place for the building of this Fabrick, where he resolved to fix his Residence. Two of these Princes, *Eochaidh Allat* and *Fiodbaidh* refused absolutely to comply with this Demand; and told him to his Face, that the Revenue which belonged to their Share of the Country,

and what Taxes and Contributions fell to them, they would pay as usual into the Royal Exchequer at *Tara*. But the third Prince, who was *Tinne*, the Son of *Conrach*, being a Courtier, made an Offer of any Part of his Country for the King to build upon; which Compliance of his so pleased the King, that he bestowed upon him his Daughter, a very beautiful Lady, whose Name was *Meidbbb*, whom he soon married by the Consent of the Princess; and in a short Time he had, by the Nobleness of his Carriage and his other princely Accomplishments, so recommended himself to the Favour and Esteem of the King, that he conceived a very great Affection for him, and admitted him in all his Councils of State, made an inviolable League and Friendship with him, and advanced him to be prime Minister of the Kingdom.

do togab  
Rat cruach  
an an ro  
7c.

It being agreed that a royal Palace should be erected in the Province of *Conacht*, the King consulted with his *Druids* and Soothsayers what Parts of the Country would be most *propitious* for the Undertaking. They immediately had Recourse to their Art, and found that *Druin na ndruagh*, now called *Cruachan*, was the most proper and fortunate Place for this royal Building. The Plan was drawn by the most eminent Architects, and they set about the Work with that Application, that the Ditch, which was very large, and was to surround the whole Pile, was finished within the Compass of one Day. This Fabrick went under the Name of *Rath Eochaidh*, and was likewise called *Rath Cruachan*.

Upon the Marriage of *Tinne* with this *Irish* Princess, the King bestowed upon him the Sovereignty over all the Province of *Conacht*, and made him the King of it; and a Difference arising between him and one of the petty Princes *Eochaidh Allat*, he slew him in an Engagement, and gave away his Share of the Province to *Oilioll Fionn Meibh*, who was called Queen of *Conacht*, made a Present of the Palace of *Rath Eochaidh* to her Mother, whose Name was *Cruachan Crodhearg*, from whom that royal Structure chang'd its Name, and was called *Rath Cruachain* to this Day. This Transaction is delivered down to Posterity by a very ancient Poet in this Manner.

*The Royal Palace of Rath Eochaidh,  
Was called Druim Druagh and Tuluig Aidhne,*



But afterwards obtained a nobler Name,  
Of Rath Cruachan, from the virtuous Lady  
Cruachan Crodearg.

*Timne*, the Son of *Conrach*, reigned with his Queen *Meidbbb* for many Years over the Province of *Conacht*, but he was at last slain at *Tara* by *Monuidbir*, otherwise called *Maceacht*. After his Decease *Meidbbb* administered the Government for ten Years; then she married *Oilioll More*, the Son of *Rossa Ruadh*, who came out of *Leinster*; but it is supposed he was born in *Conacht*; for his Mother, whose Name was *Matba Muire-asg*, was originally a Lady of that Province; she bore seven Sons to *Oilioll More*, who were distinguished by the Name of the seven, *Maine*, her Husband was at length run thro' with a Lance by *Conall Cearnach*, notwithstanding he was of a great Age: The Place where this Act was committed was *Cruachan*; but the Inhabitants and the neighbouring People were so alarmed at this Murther, that the whole Country of *Conacht* was up in Arms, and made so close a Pursuit after *Conall Cearnach*, that they overtook and killed him in Revenge for the Death of *Oilioll More*, who was very much esteemed in that Province.

After the Death of *Oilioll More* the Government returned a second Time into the Hands of *Meidbbb*; and whilst she was a Widow and the Queen of *Conacht*, there arose a most unhappy Difference between her Subjects and the Inhabitants of *Ulster* over which Province *Connor* was then King. This Contest broke out into open Hostilities, and occasioned a long War; but to give a particular Relation of these Occurrences, I am obliged to trace the Account of them to the very Beginning, and particularly take Notice of the Death of the three Sons of *Visneach*, which was the true Cause that gave Birth to these fatal Commotions.

*Connor* at that Time was possessed of the Government of *Ulster*, and being invited to a splendid Entertainment at the House of one *Feidblim*, the Son of *Doill*, (who was principal Secretary of State to the King) it happened that the Wife of *Feidblim* fell in Labour, and was delivered of a Daughter. There was present at this Feast an eminent *Druid* that always attended the King's Person, and who by his prophetick Skill, foretold that the Child just born should occasion great Disturbances

eoncabd 12-  
 of 11ab 7  
 de 10b 1e an-  
 70.
 
 disturbances in the Province of *Conacht*, and turn the Government into Confusion. This Prediction surpris'd the Nobility and the great Officers that waited upon the King, and it was their unanimous Advice that the publick Welfare required the Child should immediately be destroyed. But *Connor* oppos'd this Resolution, and persuaded them to spare the Life of the Infant; for he would take Care to disappoint the Accomplishment of the Prophecy, by breeding up the Child under his own Inspection, and perhaps when she arriv'd at Maturity of Years he might think it proper to make her his Wife. By this Means he diverted the Nobles from their Purpose, and preserv'd the Child; and as he undertook the Education of the Girl, he removed her immediately from her Father's House, and carried her with him to his own Court. The Druid insist'd upon the Truth and Authority of his Prediction, and call'd the Child by the Name of *Deirdre*.

euniof eon-  
 cubd deir-  
 dre attun  
 dain 10n da  
 haileamain  
 go ma hion-  
 7ab 1.
 
 To secure the Infant, and to prevent the Consequences of the *Druid's* Prophecy, the King convey'd her to one of the strongest Garisons in his Province, and plac'd her in a Tower well fortified, and almost inaccessible; and withal gave strict Orders that none should be admitt'd within the Child's Apartment but her necessary Attendants, and a Woman, who was the Favourite of the King's, whose Name was *Leabbar-cham*. This Woman was a great Poetess, and she could deliver *extempore* Verses upon any Subject, and was much respect'd by the Nobility of the Country.

Within the Walls of this Castle was the young *Deirdre* confin'd till she became marriageable, and as she grew up, she appear'd to be a Lady of singular Beauty, and those who had the Care of her Education had been so faithful in their Trust, that she was the most genteel and accomplish'd Person in the whole Kingdom.

It happen'd upon a Time, as *Deirdre* and her Governess were looking out of a Window, they spied one of the Slaughtermen of the Garison killing a Calf for the use of her Table upon a snowy Day, and some of the Blood they observ'd fell upon the Snow, and a Raven came and fed upon it. This Sight occasion'd a strange Passion in the young Lady; for notwithstanding her Confinement she was of a very amorous Disposition; and turning to *Leabbarcham*, Oh, says she, that I could but be so happy as to be in the Arms

of a Man who was of the three Colours I now see, I mean, who had a *Skin* as *white* as the driven *Snow*, Hair as shining *Black* as the Feathers of a *Raven*, and a Blooming *Red* in his Cheeks as deep as the *Calf's Blood*. Her Governess was at first surpris'd at this uncommon Wish, but out of Tendernefs to the Young Lady, for whom she had an unalterable Affection, she told her that there was a young Gentleman that belong'd to the Court, who exactly agreed with that Description, and his Name was *Naois*, the Son of *Visneach*. *Deirdre* began immediately to be in Love with him, and beg'd of *Leabbarcham* that she would contrive a Method to bring him privately into the Castle, and introduce him into her Apartment; for she was passionately charm'd with his Features and Complexion, and she was in Torment till she saw him. The indulgent Governess promis'd she would ease her of her Pain upon the first Opportunity, and in a short Time found Means to inform *Naois* the young Gentleman, of the Love of the Lady, and assured him that if he had Gallantry enough to venture his Person, she would find Means to convey him into the Tower, and give him Possession of one of the finest Women in the World. It was impossible for the young *Naois* to withstand so generous an Offer; and soon after, by the Policy of *Leabbarcham*, he got within the Garrison, and was conveyed into the Lady's Chamber, where, after many Endearments and solemn Protestations of Love, she intreated that he would deliver her from Confinement, and remove her out of the Castle.

The Lover promised he would release her, or die in the Attempt; but the Enterprize was of the utmost Danger, for the Tower was well fortified and strictly guarded. He therefore communicated his Design to his Brothers *Ainle* and *Ardan*, who generously resolv'd to support him; and with the Assistance of an hundred and fifty resolute Soldiers, they surpris'd the Garrison, and carried off the Damsel. They immediately left the Country, and fled to the Sea Coasts, and upon the first Opportunity they went on board, and arriv'd safely in *Scotland*.

Upon their Arrival, the King of *Scotland* received them hospitably, and when he understood the Quality of his new Guests, he settled a Revenue upon *Naois* and his Followers; but he was soon inform'd of the Beauty of

ceib Naor  
fabhairre  
go hoilean  
Manna 3  
ceitios le  
beirbhe.

the young Lady, which left such an Impression upon him, that he resolved to force her from the Arms of her Husband, and if he met with Opposition, to run the utmost Hazard to obtain her. *Naos* was made acquainted with his Design, and put himself into a Posture of Defence: There were many Skirmishes and Engagements between the King's Troops and the *Irish*; but at last *Naos* was forced to fly, and with his Wife and Followers got Possession of an adjacent Island, expecting to be instantly attacked. In this Distress he sent to some of his Friends among the Nobility of *Ulster*, for a Supply of Forces; and his Request was so favourably received, that the principal Nobility of the Province interceded with King *Connor* that they should be relieved, and have Liberty to return to their own Country; for they said it would be barbarous to suffer the three Sons of *Vifneach* to be destroyed upon the Account of a lewd Woman. *Connor* consented and complied with this Representation of his Nobles, and as a Testimony that he had no treacherous Design upon the three Brothers when they returned, he condescended to deliver up two of his Favourites into the Hands of some of the Friends of *Naos* and his Followers, as Hostages for their Security. The Names of these two Persons were *Feargus*, the Son of *Roigh* and *Cormac Conboingios*. Depending upon the Honour and Sincerity of the King, *Feargus*, the Son of *Roigh*, sent his own Son with a sufficient Number of Forces to relieve *Naos*, which was soon accomplished, and he brought *Naos*, his Wife, his Brothers, and Followers with him safely into *Ireland*.

cealg, 7  
feallas Co-  
gan mie du-  
re piof anro  
7e.

The King, when he had Notice of their Landing, dispatch'd *Eogan*, the Son of *Durtbacht*, who was the principal Commander of *Fearmoighe* to conduct the three Brothers to *Eambain*, but gave him secret Orders to fall upon them in the Way, and kill every Man of them. *Eogan* met with the Sons of *Vifneach* in the Plains of *Eambain*, and when he fixed his Eyes upon *Naos*, who was in the Front, he advanced towards him as if he designed to salute and congratulate him upon his Return to *Ulster*; but he suddenly thrust him thro' with his Spear, and he fell dead upon the Spot. This Action was so treacherous in it self, and was so resented by *Fiachadb*, the Son of *Feargus*, who was sent to assist those distressed *Irish*, and bring them into their own Country,

Country, that he attacked *Eogan* with all his Might, but with ill Fortune to himself; for he was thrust thro' the Body, and died instantly. Animated with this Success, *Eogan*, who was, it must be confess'd, a Person of singular Bravery, fell upon the two Brothers the remaining Sons of *Visneach*, and slew them likewise, and routed all the Forces they had, and seizing upon the unfortunate *Deirdre*, he carried her to the Court of *Connor*, the King of *Ulster*.

One of the two Hostages for the King's Honour, whose Name was *Feargus*, the Son of *Roigh*, was so incensed at this *Breach of Faith*, that he resolved to revenge it upon the King, especially because his Son *Fia-chadh*, who was sent to conduct those distressed *Irish*, was treacherously slain. He communicated his Design to *Dubthaig*, who accepted of the Proposal, and accordingly they raised a Body of resolute Troops, and advanced towards *Eamhain*, where the King was. *Connor* was not to be surpris'd, and therefore he oppos'd them with all his Forces, and a most bloody Fight followed, wherein *Maine*, one of the King's Sons, was killed, with three hundred of his choicest Men and the Flower of all his Army. This Defeat gave the Victors <sup>loirgean 7 epeictan eadain an</sup> an Opportunity to seize upon the Palace of *Eamhain*, which they plundred, and put all they met to the Sword, not sparing the Ladies of the Seraglio, whom the King kept for his own Pleasure.

*Cormac Conboingios*, we have observed, was the other Hostage, and he with them likewise raised a Body of stout Men, among his Friends, to the Number of three thousand, and marched with them into the Province of *Conacht*, that was then under the Government of *Meidbbb*. From this Queen they met with kind Reception, and they continued under her Protection for some Time: But in the Night they would send strong Detachments into the Province of *Ulster*, to burn and ravage the Country, which they harass'd with such dreadful Hostilities, that the Inhabitants, and the Fruits, and Provisions of the whole Province were in a Manner all destroyed by Fire and Sword. The Country of *Crioch Cuailgne* particularly suffered in these Calamities, which was the Cause of those Conte'sts and Heart-burnings kept up between the two Provinces for seven Years afterwards.

During the Time of these Provincial Wars, it was, that *Feargus*, the Son of *Roigh*, found Means to insinuate



do bi co-  
gaögnac  
ioih co ge  
ulaö 7 co  
naö yeaö  
mbiaöga.

nuate into the Affections of *Meidbbb*, the Queen of *Conacht*, who proved with Child by him, and was delivered of three Boys at a Birth; the Names of these three Princes were *Ciar*, *Corc*, and *Conmac*, as the Poet has long since related in this Manner.

*The valiant Prince Fergus, Son of Roigh,  
Was Master of the Charms of Meidhbh Cruachna;  
Who bore him three Sons, whose Names in History  
Are Ciar, Corc, and Conmac.*

From these three Brothers, it is certain, that some Families of principal Distinction in *Ireland* derive their Extraction: *Ciar*, the elder Brother, gave Name to *Ciaruidh*, that is, *Kerry* in the Province of *Munster*; and the excellent *O Connor Kerry* is a Descendent from some of his Posterity. *Corcamruidhe* was so called from *Corc*, and from him is derived the illustrious *O Connor Corcamruidhe*; and from *Conmac* sprang all the worthy Families of the *Comaicsies* in *Conacht*. And to illustrate this with more Authority, I refer to a very ancient Poem, composed by *Lughair* an eminent Poet and Antiquary, the first Verse begins thus, *Clann Feargusa Clann os Cach*; where it appears evidently that the three Sons of *Meidhbh* obtained great Possessions and Authority as well in the Province of *Conacht* as in *Munster*, which may be farther proved by observing that the Countries in those two Provinces are known by the Names of these Princes to this Day.

The unfortunate *Deirdre*, who (as the Prediction foretold) was the unhappy Occasion of all these Calamities was confined by *Connor*, the King of *Ulster*, one whole Year after the Death of her Husband and the Tribe of *Visneach*; in which Time she was so afflicted with the Loss of her beloved *Naois*, that she was perfectly inconsolable; she never raised up her Head, nor was seen to smile, but was almost distracted with Grief, and would admit of no Comfort. The King was moved with a Sense of her Misfortunes (for she was beautiful in her Tears) and after he had tried in vain to mitigate her Sorrow, he sent for the perfidious *Eogan* the Son of *Duirtheacht*, the chief Commander of *Fearmoidhe*, who was the Executioner of her Husband, and to torment her the more made a Present of her to him, to be used at his

do bi deir-  
dnebliaöe-  
an gan co-  
gbail ein na  
gean gaine  
deir bair  
öiana nne-  
ach.

Pleasure. She was immediately put into the Chariot along with him; who resolved to carry her to one of his Seats in the Country, there to be confined a close Prisoner. The cruel *Connor* vouchsafed to ride a few Miles with his favourite General, in order to secure his Prey, which so enraged the distracted *Deirdre*, that she took an Opportunity to discover her Anger by looking upon both of them with that Sternness and Indignation, that the King took Notice of her, and told her that the Cast of her Eyes between them two, was like the Look of a *Sheep* between two *Rams*. This Remark so incensed the poor Lady, that she started out of the Chariot by Force, and fell with that Violence upon her Head, that she beat out her Brains, and instantly died. And this is the Account given by the Records of *Ireland* concerning the Banishment of *Feargus*, the Son of *Roigh*, or *Cormac Conloingios* and *Dubthaig Daoluladh*, <sup>as ym do sibhac fea- fura mac Riog.</sup> and the miserable Death of the unfortunate *Deirdre*.

We have observed before, that *Connor* was King of *Ulster* at that Time when *Meidbbb* was possessed of the Government of *Conacht*, which Province was under the Power of that Princess for many Years; for she reigned after the Death of *Timne*, Son of *Conracht* who was her first Husband, ten Years; she was the Wife of *Oilioll More* eighty Years, and after his Decease she continued eight Years a Widow, and was at last slain by *Ferbbuidhe*, the Son of *Connor*. The Reign of this Princess was ennobled with many memorable Transactions, and produced many eminent Personages, whose brave Exploits deserve a Place in this History. I shall therefore, for the Sake of Posterity, give Account of some of their Heroic Exploits, and military Achievements; and to observe an Order in this Relation, I am obliged to take Notice of the Death of *Connor*, King of *Ulster*, which was brought about in this Manner.



# An ACCOUNT of the DEATH of CONNOR, King of Ulster.

IT was one of the commendable Customs of the ancient *Irish*, to encourage the Youth of the Kingdom, and to train them up in a military Life, that they might defend their Country in Time of Distress, and make Conquests, and become formidable abroad: And to incite their Valour, and to inspire them with generous and warlike Sentiments, it was established, that whoever came off the Victor in a single Combat, should be distinguished with the Spoils of the vanquished, as a Trophy and Testimony of his Bravery. This Honour and Encouragement was the Occasion of violent Contests and Disputes, and stir'd up an Emulation in the Minds of the Youth, which seldom ended without Duelling and Bloodshed. The principal Heroes in these Times were *Connall Cearnach*, *Congcullain*, and *Laoghre Buadbach* in

do bi tarrt  
dgar cony-  
poid idir an  
tarrtad laoe  
ro m3 ta-  
condall ced-  
nac cuicul-  
lain 7 laog-  
ge buadac.

*Eambain*. The first of these Champions insisted upon a Preeminence above the other two, and to convince them that he was of a superior Courage, he commanded the *Brains* of a great Soldier, called *Meisgeadkra*, to be brought as an Evidence of his Merits: This *Meisgeadkra* had the Character of one of the bravest Persons in the Island, and had distinguished himself upon all Occasions, but was killed in a Tryal of Skill by *Connal Cearnach*. *Congcuillin* and *Laoghre Buadbach* being satisfied of the Truth of this Victory, submitted, and gave up their Pretensions to the Laurel; for they thought it in vain to contend with so illustrious a Champion, who had slain the best Swordsman of the Age.

The Reason why this great Hero called for the *Brains* of his Adversary, in Proof of his Courage, was in Compliance with a remarkable Custom in those Times; that whenever a Champion overcame his Adversary in single Combat, he took out his *Brains*, and mixing them with Lime, he made a round *Ball*, which, by drying in the Sun, became exceeding solid and hard, and was always produced in publick Meetings and Conventions as an honourable Distinction, and a Trophy of experienced Valour, and certain Victory.

At this Time it happened, that there were two natural Fools belonging to the Court of *Connor*, King of *Ulster*; and this Prince, having in his Possession one of these noble Badges, made of the *Brains of Meisgeadbra*, took great Care to preserve this *Ball* which the Fools taking notice of, supposed it to be of great Value, and therefore resolved together to steal it out of the Palace. This Trophy was then lodged in one of the royal Seats of *Ulster*, called *Craobh Dhearg*: Besides this there were three stately Fabricks in that Province; the principal was the Palace of *Eamhain*, where the Kings of *Ulster* generally resided and kept their Court; adjoining to this stately Fabrick was the Lodge of *Teagh na Craoibhe Ruadhe*, which signifies in *English* the House of the *Red Branch*, where the most renowned Champions lodged their Arms, and hung up their honourable Trophies, and the Spoils they had taken in the Wars, when they came off victorious over foreign Enemies: The third Building of Note was the royal Hospital of *Broinbhearg*, which signifies the House of Sorrow and Affliction; for here the sick and wounded were provided for and supported till they were perfectly cured. The Champions, whose Trophies and Arms were placed in the Palace of *Teagh na Craoibhe Ruadhe*, were distinguished by the Title of Champions of the *Red Branch*, and by that Name they were known in Countries abroad; for they were a military Order of brave Soldiers, and their Courage had obtained them an honourable Character over all the *Western Part* of the World.

This Palace being the Place appointed to preserve the most valuable Jewels and monumental Trophies of the Kingdom, this *Ball of Brains* was laid up here for Security; but the two Fools abovementioned, observing where it was, found Means to convey it away undiscovered. When they had it in Possession, they went immediately to the *Green of Eamhain*, and began to play and divert themselves by tossing it in the Air from one to another. As they were sporting upon the *Green*, there chanc'd to come by a very eminent Hero of those Times, whose Name was *Ceat*, the Son of *Magach*. This Champion belonged to the Province of *Conacht*, and was an implacable Enemy to the Government of *Ulster*; he rode up to the Fools, and finding they were diverting themselves with one of these military

linary Trophies, he prevailed upon them to give him the *Ball*, which he carried with him into his own Province.

The Contests and Disputes between the Men of *Ulster* and the Inhabitants of *Conacht* broke out some Time before into open Hostilities; and there were many Battels fought between the two Provinces: And this *Ceat*, by Way of Insult upon his Enemies, when he came into the Field, would threaten them with this *Ball of Brains*, which he always tied to his *Belt*, and which according to an old Prediction, was some Time or other to be of fatal Consequence to the Province of *Ulster*. The Prophecy, it seems, foretold that *Meisgeadbhra*, of whose Brains this *Ball* was composed, should, after his Death, be fully reveng'd upon the Men of *Ulster*, for the Indignities he had suffered from them; and *Ceat* obtaining this Trophy by Stratagem, always wore it about him, being persuaded the Prediction would be accomplished by him; for he resolved upon the first Opportunity to enter the Lists with the boldest Champion of *Ulster*, and this *Ball of Brains* was the Weapon he chiefly designed to use in the Combat.

yluaḡ Co-  
nachc do  
búil do tpe-  
acha ulas.

The War was still carried on with Vigor between the two Provinces; and *Ceat* at the Head of a powerful Army made Incursions, and entering the Province of *Ulster* with Fire and Sword, plundered the Country, and drove away all their Cattel. These Hostilities enraged *Connor*, who drew together all his Forces, and supported by a well disciplined Army, he marched with all possible Expedition towards the Enemy, and resolved to give them Battel. By this Time *Ceat* had received a choice Body of Recruits from the Province of *Conacht*, and with these Reinforcements he drew up, and both Armies were prepared to engage.

Daḡeḡaf  
Conachc  
anyo 7c.

But *Ceat* was unwilling to come to a decisive Battel with *Connor*, and therefore contrived a Stratagem to surprise and destroy him without fighting. It seems that most of the principal Ladies of *Conacht* were standing upon the Top of a Hill, viewing the two Armies, and expecting the Event of the Battel. It was resolved, that these Women should send a Messenger to *Connor*, as if they had some Things of Importance to communicate, and desire he'd be pleased to come to them; for no Danger could be apprehended from a Company of Women, and therefore his Person was secure.



*Connor* being a Prince of great Gallantry, fell into the Snare, and accepted of the Invitation; and confiding in the Honour of the Ladies, with great Indiscretion goes to the Top of the Hill without his Guards, and unattended. He immediately paid his Compliments to the Ladies, but the treacherous *Ceat* had found a Way privately to hide himself in the Company, and observing his Opportunity, placed his *Ball of Brains* in a *Sling* with a Design to discharge it at the King of *Ulster*, and so by killing him put an End to the War: But *Connor* perceiving the Villany, immediately retired towards his Forces. *Ceat* pursued him close, and overtaking him at *Doire da Bhaoith*, he let fly, and was so sure of his Mark, that he hit *Connor* full on his Head, and broke his Skull. His Army perceiving him in this Distress, hastened to relieve him, which forced *Ceat* to make his Way towards his Troops, and so by Flight he saved his Life.

The *Ball of Brains* made a Contusion in the Head of *Connor*; and when one of the principal Surgeons was sent for, whose Name was *Fighnin Faithaig*, he found that the Wound was of dangerous Consequence, tho', if the Nobles would give their Consent, he promised to use the utmost of his Skill in the Operation, and if possible preserve his Life. The Nobility and principal Officers that were attending, readily agreed to this Proposal; for they said that the Happiness of the whole Province depended upon the King's Life, and they were sensible that though the sacred Person of the King must be hazarded in the Attempt, yet a desperate Case would admit of no Cure but what was desperate. The Wound however was in a short Time cured by the Care and Skill of this Surgeon; but it had that Effect upon the Brain, that upon the least Passion or Heat of the Spirits, it was in Danger of breaking out again, and a Relapse might be attended with very fatal Consequences: *Fighnin* therefore thought it his Duty to represent the Truth of the Case to *Connor*, and advised him, in a submissive Manner, to avoid all immoderate Exercise, that might disorder or put his Blood into a Ferment, particularly not to ride hard, or be incontinent any Way, but to keep his Spirits cool and in a proper Motion.



The King strictly observed the Direction of the Surgeon; for the Violence of Heat or Passion would force the Wound open, and by that Means bring his Life into the utmost Danger: And in this State *Connor* continued for seven Years to the great Joy of his Subjects, till (as some of the *Irish* Chronicles, tho' of no great Authority, assert) the *Friday* upon which our Saviour was crucified; and then the King being surpris'd at that dreadful and supernatural Eclipse, and shocked at that horrid Darkness and Convulsion of Nature that fol-

Firehuldear  
sonehuba  
do baenseh  
sneoi fce  
dirtcize ne  
2171.

lowed the Death of the Son of God; he consulted with one *Bacrach*, an eminent Druid of *Leinster*, to know the Occasion and Design of that wonderful Event: The *Pagan* Prophet replied, that the Cause of those strange and violent Alterations arose from a barbarous Murther that Day committed by the wicked *Jews*, upon a most innocent and divine Person, *Jesus* Christ, the Son of the everlasting God. The King repented that inhuman Act with that Passion, that he cried out, if he were a Spectator of the Villany, he would be revenged upon those barbarous *Jews*, who had the Insolence to destroy his *Lord*, the Son of the great God of the whole Earth: He immediately drew his Sword, and went to an adjacent Grove, and distracted almost to Madness at the Thoughts of that abominable Act, he hacked and cut the Trees, protesting if he were in the Country of the *Jews*, where this holy Person was executed, he would be revenged upon his Murtherers, and chop them to Pieces as he did those Trees; and by the Violence of his Anger, his Blood and Spirits were disorder'd and fermented, which had that Effect, that the Wound burst open, and some of his *Brains* followed, so that he died upon the Spot. The Grove of Trees where this Accident happened was call'd *Coill Lambruadbe* from the Hand of this *Connor*, King of *Ulster*.

Conshab  
gedradd  
soille na  
laine ruad  
anyo 7c.

After the Death of this Prince there was some Dispute about the Succession, which was at last accommodated by this Resolution; that whoever would undertake to carry the Body of *Connor* from the Place where it lay, to the Palace of *Eambain*, without resting by the Way, should succeed in the Throne of *Ulster*. This Proposal worked upon the Ambition of a Footman that belonged to the deceased King, whose Name was

*Ceann*

*Ceann Beirreide*, who encouraged with the Prospect of wearing a Crown, resolved to try his Fortune, tho' he died in the Attempt; and therefore he took the Body, that was of a great Weight, upon his Shoulders, but when he came to the Top of *Sliabh Fuaid*, he sunk under the Burthen, for his Heart was broke, and he died instantly. And from this Transaction there arose a proverbial Saying in the Country, when a Person undertakes a Trust or Charge upon himself that he is unable to manage, he is said to miscarry like the Government of *Cean Bearruidhe*, whose Ambition put him upon this desperate Attempt, which cost him his Life.

But the Authors, who deliver this Account of *Connor*, King of *Ulster*, are not to be respected when they contradict the more solemn Testimony of the *Irish* Records, which assert directly that *Connor* was dead long before the Birth of *Christ*. It must be confessed that some Circumstances of the Relation abovementioned, are supported by good Authority; for it is certain, that *Bacrach*, a famous Druid of *Leinster*, did prophesy to the People of that Province, and foretel, that a most holy and divine Person should be born in a wonderful Manner, and be barbarously murdered by the great Council of his own Nation, notwithstanding his Design of Coming into the World, was for the Happiness and Salvation of the whole Earth, and to redeem them from the Delusions and Tyranny of infernal Demons, whose Office was to torture them with insupportable Pains in a future State. And these cruel and ungrateful Indignities that were to be offered to this innocent and God-like Man, made such an Impression upon *Connor*, that he was overcome with Indignation and Resentment, and drawing his Sword, he hacked and chopped the Wood like a Person distracted, which so inflamed his Spirits, that the *Ball of Brains* drop'd off, and he fell down dead. But the Death of this King happened long before *Christ* was born, and therefore that Circumstance of the History must be false.

If it should be thought incredible that a *Pagan* Prophet should be so inspired as to foretel the Birth and the Crucifixion of *Christ*, I desire that it might be considered, that Almighty God, to accomplish the Ends of his all-wise Designs, might, if he pleased, vouchsafe such a Measure of Inspiration to a *Pagan*, as to be able to deliver such a Prediction; and

and as an Evidence upon this Occasion, the Oracles of those Heathen Prophetesses called *Sibils* will prove, that the Circumstances of *Christ's* Birth and Passion have been fortold by those, who knew nothing of the true God, but lived in the dark Ages of Ignorance and Idolatry.

### An ACCOUNT of the DEATH of CEAT, the Son of Magach.

Compte  
donnill beg-  
nnee 7 be-  
it 21 de  
Magach  
anyo.

**T**HIS *Ceat* was the General over the Army of *Conacht*, and was one of the most celebrated Champions of those Times: He seldom fail'd of Victory when he engaged, and was so inveterate an Enemy to the Men of *Ulster*, that by his frequent Inroads and Cruelties he had almost ruined the whole Province. He plundered and spoiled the Country wherever he came, and so harassed the Inhabitants, that his Name was a Terror to them; for he had often routed them in the Field, and under his Oppression they became a miserable and dispirited People. It happened that this Hero of *Conacht* made Incurfions into *Ulster* in the Time of Winter, when the Country was covered with deep Snow; he had met with some Opposition, but after many Skirmishes and Engagements, he obtained his Purposes, and, by his Conduct and Bravery, was returning home, loaden with Spoils. In this Expedition he had fought three of the stoutest Champions of *Ulster*, and killed them in single Combat, and designed to carry their Heads with him into *Conacht*, but in his March he was pursued by *Connall Cearnach*, who overtook him at *Ath-cenn*, and offering him Battel, a most bloody Action followed, in which *Ceat* was slain by the General of *Ulster*; but he sold his Life dearly; for in the Engagement *Connall* himself was so desperately wounded, and lost so much Blood, that he fell down in a Swoon upon the very Spot where the Combat was fought. In this fainting State he was found by another renowned Swordsman of *Conacht*, whose Name was *Bealchu Breisne*, who perceiving the Wounds of one of the Combatants, and that the other was killed outright, he was pleased with the Sight, and said that he never received more

Satisfaction

Satisfaction in his Life-time, than he enjoyed at present; for two implacable Competitors, whose Ambition had involved the whole Kingdom of *Ireland* in Confusion, and had occasioned so much Bloodshed, were destroyed by one another, and met with a Fate suitable to their Deserts. *Connall* was so incensed by being insulted in this Manner, that he desired *Bealchu* to dispatch him at once out of his Misery; for his Reflections were insupportable, and he chose rather to die by his Hand, because it would vindicate and raise his Character; for then it could not be said with Justice, that he fell by the Sword of *one Man*, but *two* Champions of *Conacht* overcame him. But *Bealchu* generously spared his Life, and with great Honour assured him that he would not only give him his Life, which he thought could not continue long, but he would endeavour to recover him of his Wounds, and when he was perfectly cured, he would then fight him in single Combat, and give him Satisfaction; and accordingly he saved him from the Fury of the Soldiers, and took him with him in his Chariot. The most eminent Surgeons of the Kingdom were ordered to attend him, and to take Care of his Wounds, which by proper Skill and Application, were soon healed, and *Connall* obtained his perfect Health.

But *Bealchu* observing that *Connall* so suddenly recovered, and enjoyed his full Strength and former Activity, was afraid to fight him fairly, but resolved to dispatch him another Way; and accordingly he fixed upon his own Sons for the Executioners, who by Agreement were to surprise him in the dead of the Night, and to murder him in his Bed. But *Connall* was acquainted with this treacherous Design soon enough to prevent it, and therefore the Night, when this barbarous Act was to be committed, he boldly addressed himself to *Bealchu*, and desired to change Beds with him, or instantly to take away his Life: *Bealchu* was unwilling to gratify his Request; but when he consider'd the Case, he complied, and accordingly he went to Bed where *Connall* lay, and *Connall* removed into his Bed. In the Night the Ruffians entered the Room unexpectedly, and fell upon their own Father thro' Mistake, and killed him. *Connall* observing his Opportunity, rushed in upon them by Surprise, and slew the three Brothers: He took their Heads and their Father's



along with him, and soon after he arrived at the Palace of *Eambain*, where he related the Particulars of the Adventure, and exposed the Heads of his Enemies as infallible Proofs of his Courage and Success. This Transaction is transmitted to Posterity by a very old Poet in this Manner:

*Connall Ccarnach was renown'd in Arms,  
And with a Courage not to be subdued,  
He fell upon the Russians in the Chamber,  
Three Brothers, Sons of Bealchu Breifne,  
And slew them all.*

Is tombha  
Gmomeach  
agur mon-  
ghaf d.  
bfeidin do  
laid g ch-  
nall begnac.

In this Manner died *Bealchu Breifne*, who was a Person of great Bravery, and his three Sons, who were to be the Executioners of the illustrious *Connall*; and the Account which I have given, contains likewise the Particulars of *Cear's* Death, the Son of *Magach*. I could set off this History with many great Actions in Chivalry performed by this valiant Knight *Connall*, what Combats he fought, and Victories he won, were it consistent with my present Design; but I observe in short, that the *Irish* Records make very honourable Mention of this Champion, and speak of him with the greatest Applause, as the best Swordsman, and the invincible Hero of the Western World.

### *An ACCOUNT of the DEATH of FEARGUS the Son of Roigh.*

IT has been observed before that *Feargus* underwent a voluntary Exile in the Province of *Conacht*, and retired to *Oilioll* and *Meidbbb* at the Royal Castle of *Mayeo*. During his Banishment it happened that the King and Queen and their Guest were walking in the Summer Season upon the Bank of a Lake that was near the Palace; *Oilioll* desired *Feargus* to strip himself, and divert him by Swimming the Lake; *Feargus* complied, and when he was undressed, he plunged into the Water. The Sight of so comely a Person naked, had that Effect upon the Queen, that she longed to be near him; and desired Leave of her Husband to bath herself,

self, for the Weather was exceeding hot; and she promised to wash in a secret and distant Part of the Lake: He thought himself secure of the Honour of his Wife, and therefore, to please her Humour, he gave his Consent; she immediately undressed, and retiring to a private Place she jump'd in; but being a Lady very expert in Swimming, she could not, tho' in the Sight of her Husband, forbear approaching the gallant *Feargus*, which so enraged the jealous *Oilioll*, that he commanded a Kinsman of his, who was one of his Retinue, to throw a Partisan, he had in his Hand, with all his Violence at *Feargus*, which he did with that Dexterity, that he wounded him sorely in the Body, but did not disable him from making to Shore; tho' the Wound was exceeding painful, and proved mortal; when he came to Land he twisted the Spear out of his Body, and flung it with all his Might at *Oilioll*, but he missed his Mark, and pierced a Greyhound to the Ground that stood near the Chariot of the King, so that it died upon the Spot. *Feargus*, after he had thrown the Javelin, fainted with the Loss of Blood, and, falling to the Ground, immediately expired, and was buried upon the Bank of the Lake. This unfortunate Prince was a Person of consummate Courage, and had exerted himself often with Applause in single Combat and in the Field of Battel: He it was that killed *Fachtna*, the Son of *Connor*, and these formidable Champions, *Geirgin*, the Son of *Nialladha*, and *Owen*, the Son of *Duribachta*, the brave Commander of *Fearmoidhe* felt the Metal of his Sword; he foil'd likewise many resolute Swordsmen, whose Names, and the Accounts of the Combats, it would be tedious to mention: But we are not to forget what rich Spoils he brought away from *Ulster*, how he ravag'd and sacked the Country, and overrun the Province with Fire and Sword; insomuch that the Calamities he brought upon the People of *Ulster*, were not repaired in many Years; for the Strangers, who followed the Fortune of this Prince, were for seven, or, as others assert, for ten Years plundering the Country, which reduced the Inhabitants to the extremest Misery. These Incurfions were occasioned by the treacherous Death of the Sons of *Visneach*, who were barbarously slain, which Cruelty the Men of *Conacht* undertook to revenge: But they met with great Opposition in their Hostilities; for the Forces of *Ulster* would often penetrate into the Province of *Conacht*, and captivate the

People, and carry off very considerable Booties: This Enmity and Heart-burning produced perpetual Wars between the two Provinces, which were waged with different Success; but brought such insupportable Calamities upon the People, that whole Volumes have been written upon the Miseries that attended these Commotions; but the Nature of this History will not admit of a particular Account, but requires other Matters to be considered, of more Importance to the present Design.

### An ACCOUNT of the DEATH of LAOGHAIRE BUADHAIG.

THAT famous Prince *Connor*, King of *Ulster*, retained a Poet in his Court, whose Name was *Hugh*, the Son of *Amin*, who was suspected to be very intimate with the Queen, and to hold a criminal Correspondence with her. This Intrigue was discovered at length to the King, who, enraged at the Baseness of the Action, gave immediate Orders that the Poet should be drowned in a Pond that was adjacent to the House of *Laoghair Buadhaig*: The Command was instantly obeyed, and the Poet was seized and design'd for Execution. But the principal Shepherd of *Laoghair* was resolved to prevent the Sentence, and boldly asked the Guards that attended, whether they could find no Place more proper to drown the Poet than before the Door of his Master? and declared he would prevent it as far as his Life went, because it would occasion a Fright, and give great Offence to the Family. *Laoghair*, hearing the Debates, and observing there was more than a common Disturbance, started up in his Haste, and running out, he struck his Head against the upper Part of the Door, which, with the Violence of the Blow, fractured his Skull. But the Wound was not immediately mortal; for he lived to call his Servants about him, who fell bravely upon the King's Guards, and those who attended the Execution, and putting them to Flight, he obtained his Purpose, and saved the Life of the Poet. But he did not survive this Action, for after the Encounter he died upon the Spot. This was the unfortunate End of *Laoghair Buadhaig*, as the *Irish* Chronicles expressly assert.

bay laog-  
aire buad-  
aig.



An ACCOUNT of the DEATH of  
MEIDHBH CRUACHNA.

**O**IL IOL More, the Husband of Meidbbb, being killed by the Hand of Conall Cearnach, Meidbbb removed the Place of her Residence to *Inis Cloithroin*, situated upon the Bank of the Lake *Ribb*; and having the Conveniency of a sweet Water, she used in the Summer Mornings to retire into the Pond, and divert and refresh her self by swimming. *Forbuidhe*, the Son of *Connor*, King of *Ulster*, being a Prince of very severe Resentments, hearing of this Custom of the Queen, found Means privately to come to the Lake, and, with a Line he had for the Purpose, he measured the exact Distance between the one Side and the other (where *Inis Cloithroin* formerly stood) and returned back to *Ulster* undiscovered. As soon as he arrived, he drove two Stakes of Wood into the Ground, at the same Distance with the Length of the Line which measured the Breadth of the Lake; and when he had placed an Apple at the Top of one of the Stakes, he stood at the other, and for some Time made it his Practice to cast a Stone at the Apple with a Sling. He used this Exercise so long, till he could fling to the greatest Nicety, and became so dextrous, that he never mist his Mark. At that Time there was an appointed Meeting between the principal Inhabitants of *Ulster* and *Conacht*, upon one Side of the River *Shannon* at *Inis Cloithroin*. It was to compose some Differences between the two Provinces; and *Forbuidhe*, the Son of *Connor*, came with his Father's Deputies, and was the principal Person in the Management of the Treaty. This he thought was a proper Time to execute his Design against the Queen of *Conacht*; and an immediate Opportunity offered to accomplish his Purpose; for the Queen, according to Custom, came in a Morning to divert her self in the Lake; and when she was in the Water *Forbuidhe* flung a Stone at her with his Sling, and was so expert in the Art, that he smote her full on the Forehead, and sinking to the Bottom, she died instantly. In this Manner fell this heroick Queen, after she had enjoyed the Govern-

ment of *Conacht* ninety eight Years, as before mentioned. It was thought proper to give an Account of the Death of some of the most illustrious Princes of the Island, and of the memorable Exploits and Atchievements of those brave Persons that were called the Champions of the Western Isle; and this was thought the most proper Place to introduce these Transactions, because they happened in the Reign of *Meidhbh*, Queen of *Conacht*. But lest it should be thought a Digression, if we stay too long upon this Subject, we shall return and take Notice of the Children of *Eochaidh Feidhlioch*, who makes so great a Figure in the *Irish* History.

This Prince *Eochaidh Feidhlioch* had three Sons and three Daughters; the Names of his three Sons were *Breas*, *Nar* and *Lughair*, and the three Daughters were known by the Name of *Eithne Vathach*, *Clothra*, and *Meidhbh Cruachna*. A very ancient Poet gives the same Account, which Authority is sufficient for us to follow.

*The valiant Eochaidh Feidhlioch  
Left three fair Daughters of his Royal Line:  
Each would adorn a Monarch's nuptial Bed.  
Their Names were Eithne Vathach, Meidhbh, and Clothra.*

### A farther ACCOUNT of the EXPLOITS of CONNOR, King of Ulster.

fill from p. 47 of the 4th edition of the 7c.

THIS Prince is so honourably mentioned by the Historians of *Ireland*, that it would be Injustice to his Memory, as well as to Posterity, to rob the World of any one of those memorable Actions, which so eminently distinguish this Prince in the ancient Records of the Kingdom. It must be observed therefore, that *Neasa*, the Daughter of *Eochaidh Salbuide*, was Mother to this excellent Monarch; and wherever we find his Genealogy, he is always said to be *Connor*, the Son of *Neasa*, &c. His Father was *Fatchna Fathach*, the Son of *Cais*, Son of *Rugbruidhe*, a Descendent from the Royal Line of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*. One of the Daughters of *Connor* was married to *Carbre Niadsar*, King of *Leinster*; but to obtain her

he



he made over Part of his own Dominions to her Father; and when the Provincialists insisted upon laying out the distinct Bounds of each Province, it appeared that a great Part of *Leinster* was claimed by *Connor*, King of *Ulster*, as settled by the Marriage of his Daughter; and he added to his own Territories all the Country from *Lack an Choigeadh*, and from *Teamhair*, that is, *Tara*, to the main Ocean. This Tract of the Island is known to include three compleat Territories, as a Poet of great Antiquity observes in the following Lines.

*Connor enlarged the Bounds of his Command,  
And as a Dowry for his Daughter's Beauty,  
Obtain'd three fruitful Tracts of Land from Leinster,  
And join'd them to his own Dominions.*

The Name of the Lady, who procured these three Territories for *Connor*, the King of *Ulster*, was *Feidhlin Nuadchrothach*; but she had more Regard for the Grandeur of her own Family than for the Honour of her Husband or her own Character; for she found Means to make her Escape, and fled from *Leinster*, with a young Gallant called *Connal Cearnach*.

*Connor*, notwithstanding his other Accomplishments, by one Action obscured the Glory of his Reign; for upon a Time when he had drank to Excess, he attempted Familiarity, and had the Misfortune to be allowed to commit Incest with his own Mother *Neasa*, which abominable Crime produced a Son whose Name was *Cormac Conluingios*: But the Vengeance of Heaven severely punished the Mother, who was most concerned in the Guilt of this Wickedness, with the Loss of all her other Children, except three Sons, who died without Issue; the Names of the surviving three were *Beanna*, from whom *Beantry* obtained its Name, *Lamba* who gave the Name to *Lambruidhe*, and *Glaissne*, from whom *Glafruidhe* is derived; and to perpetuate the Infamy of that unnatural Act, Providence (as our *Irish Annals* inform us) has taken Care that at this Day there is not one Descendent, even from those three, living upon the Face of the Earth.



An ACCOUNT of the DEATH of  
CONLAOCH, Son of Congculionn.

THE *Irish* Records deliver these Particulars concerning the Death of *Conlaoch*. *Congculionn* discovered, it seems, a military Disposition, and delighted in Arms from his Youth; and to perfect himself in the Discipline of War, he went into *Scotland*, where there was a Lady of masculine Bravery and great Experience, whose Name was *Sgathach*, and to her he applied to be instructed in the Exercise of his Weapons, under whose Care and Inspection he soon improved, and became one of the most accomplished Warriors of his Time. But the soft Passion of Love notwithstanding found a Way into the Heart of the young Soldier; for there was a most beautiful young Lady in *Scotland*, whose Name was *Aoise*, the Daughter of *Ardgeine*, who was so charm'd with the Comeliness of his Person, and the generous Manner of his Deportment, that she conceived the most violent Passion for him, which she soon found Means to acquaint him with. The Cavalier with great Gallantry accepted of her Love; and upon the first Sight of her was moved with the most tender Sentiments, and tho' he had not an Opportunity of marrying her, yet he attempted the Lady's Virtue, who yielded upon the first Summons, and she proved with Child by him. He now began to think of returning into *Ireland*, and taking Leave of the distressed *Aoise*, he gave her a Chain of Gold, and charged her to keep it safely, till the Child, if it proved a Son, came to the Estate of a Man; and then he ordered her to send him to *Ireland* with that Token, by which he should discover him to be his Son, and promised that as such he would entertain him. But withal he gave her this Injunction particularly, that she should lay the strictest Command upon him to observe her Directions in three Things, the first, that he should never give the *Way* to any Person living, but rather die than be obliged to turn back: The second, not to refuse a Challenge from the boldest Champion alive, but to fight him at all Hazards, if he was sure to lose his Life: The third, not to confess his Name upon any Account, tho' he be threatned with

Sede ciz-  
te congcul-  
777 do 2101-  
fe ingedn  
211regeime  
dngfo.

C711 coingl  
do 6777 2101-  
fe d conla-  
o 25 dul  
50 heipm  
oo.

Death for concealing it. These Obligations she was to lay upon him with a Parent's Authority, which she promised to execute faithfully; and with these Assurances *Congculionn* returned to *Ireland*.

The unfortunate *Aoise* was soon after delivered of a Son, who was named *Conlaoch*, whom she carefully educated; and when he came of Age, she placed him under the Tuition of *Sgathbach*, the Virago of *Scotland*, to be instructed in the Use of Arms, and in the Art of War and military Discipline. He discovered the same Genius with his Father, and when he had finished his Exercise with Applause, his Mother, as she was ordered, sent him into *Ireland* to *Congculionn*.

As soon as he arrived upon the Coasts, he resolved to go directly to the Court of *Connor*, King of *Ulster*, which was then kept at a Seat call'd *Thraacht Eise*, because that was the most convenient Place for the Reception of his principal Nobility and Commons, who were then assembled to debate upon some important Affairs that related to the Government of the Province. When the young Cavalier appeared at Court, *Connor* sent one of his commanding Officers to inquire who he was, and upon what Business he came: But the Stranger resolv'd to observe the Commands of his Mother, and refused absolutely to give him Satisfaction upon that Head, and declared that his Name was not of much Importance, but he would not discover it to the stoutest Man living. The Messenger, whose Name was *Cuinnire*, surpris'd at this insolent Answer, returned to the King, and related what had happened. *Congculionn* was at that Time at Court, and willing to be fully satisfied who this Stranger was, he desired Leave to go to him, and he did not doubt of giving the King a good Account of him. He was accordingly sent with a full Commission to use him as he pleased, and force him, if he continued obstinate, into Compliance and good Manners. When he came, he demanded with an Air of Authority, what his Name was; but the Stranger would by no Means give him Satisfaction, which so enraged his Father, whose Passion had overcome his Reason, that he struck at him with his Launce, and so a most desperate Combat followed between the two Champions, the Father and the Son, equally brave and expert in the Management of their Arms. They fought a consider-

D d d

able

able Time with doubtful Success; at last *Congculionn*, unable to sustain the Force of his Son's youthful Heat, who charged him briskly, was obliged to give Way; and notwithstanding he had fought so many Duels, killed so many renowned Swordsmen, and understood his Weapons as well as any Man living, and had Courage to use them, yet he engaged with a young Hero of superior Strength, who pressed him very hard, and forced him to take the Refuge of a *Ford* to defend his Life. He was perfectly distracted with this Repulse, and forgetting the Reason of his Quarrel, which should have engaged him to receive the Stranger with the greatest Tenderneſs and Honour, he call'd to an Officer, that belong'd to him, and was a Spectator of the Combat, to give him the *Spear*, called in the *Irish* Language *Gai Builg*, with which he was sure to destroy his Adversary, and put an End to the Dispute. His Friend, whose Name was *Laoigh*, the Son of *Righe Gabbra*, finding him in Distress, and close persued, gave him the Weapon, which *Congculionn* threw instantly with all his Might, and pierced the unfortunate *Conlaach* through the Body, which decided the Fortune of the Combat; for the young Hero fell dead upon the Spot by the Hands of his own Father.

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It were easy to enlarge and set off this History with numerous Relations of Adventures of this Nature, between the most renowned Champions of those warlike Ages: I could, if my Bounds would allow me, give an Account of the Death of *Congculionn*, who was slain by the Children of *Caletin*; in what Manner the brave *Feardia*, the Son of *Dombnoin*, was killed by *Congculionn*, and how the seven Brothers, who were called the *Maines*, and were the Sons of *Oilioll More*, and the famous *Meidbbb*, Queen of *Conacht*, lost their Lives. These and many more Transactions, that relate to *Congculionn*, and other Champions of those Times, might be particularly mentioned; but Volumes would not contain all the military Exploits of the *Irish* Heroes, and therefore they are not to be expected within the Compass of this History; but whosoever desires to be acquainted with these illustrious Events, may, if he understands the ancient Language of the Country, have Recourse to Manuscripts that are now preserved in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, and whose Authority was never yet questioned. They are easie of Access to the curious, and

and the Antiquaries are glad of the Opportunity of communicating them. The Books, which treat of the Actions of these Heroes, are these, *Briffioch Muih Murtheimbne*, *Oideadb na gcurruidbe*, *Tain Bo Cuailgne*, *Tain Bo Seaghamhain Deargruathar Chonuill Cpearuag*, *Feis Eamhna*, *Tain Bo Fleidhis*, and many others upon the same Subject.

But notwithstanding the Bounds set to this History, it will be of some Use to take notice of the Death of a most distinguished Champion, whose Fame is alive to this Day among the *Irish*, and his Name was *Conrigh*, the Son of *Daire*; and what makes it proper to introduce this Transaction at this Time, is because this valiant Hero was cotemporary with *Connor*, King of *Ulster*, and was one of the most eminent Warriors of the Age. The Mother of this illustrious Person was *Morann Manannach*, the Daughter of *Ir*, the Son of *Vinsfighe*, and Sister to *Eochaidh Eichbheoil*; and this Account we receive from a Poet of great Antiquity in the following Manner.

*The virtuous Lady Morann Manannach,  
Daughter of valiant Ir, Son of Vinsfighe,  
Sister to Eochaidh Eichbheoil,  
Was Mother of the most courageous Conrigh,  
The Son of Daire.*

It must be observed, that there were three principal Tribes, or Orders of Knights, or renowned Champions in *Ireland* at that Time, that were the bravest Persons of the Age they lived in, and were so confessed by all Nations abroad; for their Valour, the Talness, and Proportion of their Bodies were made the Wonder of all foreign Countries, and their Exploits are not to be parallell'd in History; nor was the famed *Fionn* of *Leinster*, able to engage with ever a one of them. The first Tribe of these Warriors were called the Champions of the *Red Branch*, in the *Irish* Language *Curruidbe na Craoibhe Ruadbe*, and these were under the Command of *Connor*, King of *Ulster*. The second Order were those who had the Government of *Jorrus Domhnoim* in *Conacht*, and the Master of these Knights was *Oislioll Fionn*. The third consisted of a select Family of hereditary Courage called the Children of *Deagbda*, who were under the Authority of *Conrigh*, the Son of *Daire*



*mae* Daire, and they had their Residence in the West of *Munster*. These Tribes were the most celebrated Heroes of those Times; and they were never to be overcome by all the Champions of the World, nor could they be conquered unless they quarreled among themselves, and by that Means fell by each other's Arms.

*A particular ACCOUNT of the  
DEATH of CONRIGH, the Son of  
Daire.*

*do bar  
ehonpi  
mae daire  
anfo 7c.*

*blanidh in-  
Sean tige-  
driad an oi-  
leoin an fo.*

NOTwithstanding the Bravery of this great Warrior, his Death was brought about in this Manner, as the genuine Records of *Ireland* particularly mention. It happened that the Champions of *Craobh Ruadh*, or the *Red Branch*, had Intelligence of a rich Island near the Coasts of *Scotland*, that abounded with Gold, Silver, Jewels, and other valuable Commodities, which they resolved to attack and plunder, and return home laden with Spoils; and, as an Inducement to sharpen their Courage, they had heard there was in the Island a most beautiful maiden Lady, that exceeded all the Women of her Time, who was the Daughter of the Governor of the Country, and her Name was *Blan-aid*. *Conrigh* understanding that the Knights of the *Red Branch* were going upon this Design, and had made themselves ready for the Expedition, had Recourse to his *Necromantick* Art, in which he was very expert, and which was a polite Study in those Times; and by the Assistance of his Skill he transformed himself into a disguised Shape, so that no Body knew him; and under this Cover he conveyed himself on Shipboard, and landed with them upon the Island.

When they arrived, they found the Inhabitants in a Consternation, and for Security and to prevent a Surprise, the Governor had removed his Daughter and her Jewels, and the most valuable Treasure of the Country into a strong Castle well fortified, and almost impossible to be stormed; and what added to the Difficulty, the Defenders of it were almost as skilful in Magick as the Besiegers, and summon'd all their Art to defend the Castle. There were several Attempts made

by the *Irish* without, but with no Success; and after some fruitless Assaults, they began to despair of accomplishing their Design, and had some Thoughts of quitting the Island. But *Conrigh*, in the Habit of a mean Person in a *grey Habit*, whose Heart was fixed upon the young Lady, conveyed himself among the commanding Officers, who were debating the Matter in a Council of War; and when he found they resolved to break up the Siege, boldly, and with a good Grace, opposed their Return to *Ireland* before they had taken the Castle; and engaged, under the Penalty of losing his Life, that if they would give him the Liberty of chusing one of the *Jewels* within the Garrison, he would soon make them Masters of it, and they might plunder it at their Pleasure. *Congculionn*, who was the *Irish* General, joyfully accepted the Proposal, and promised him upon his Honour he should have his Choice of the Plunder, and the Liberty to take which *Jewel* he pleased. Upon this Security *Conrigh* put himself at the Head of the Troops; for he was to command in the Assault; and advancing to the Walls of the Castle, he thought it Rashness to depend wholly upon the Bravery of his Forces; and therefore made use of his *Necromantick Art*, which had that Effect as to stop the Motion of an enchanted Wheel that was placed at the Castle Gate to prevent the Entrance of the Besiegers. When he had removed this Difficulty, he forced the Gate, and made Way for the whole Army, who entred, and put all the inclosed Islanders to the Sword except the beautiful *Blanaid*: They plundered the Fort of all the Riches and Jewels they could find, and with great Treasure and valuable Spoils they returned to their Shipping, and went on board, and landed in *Ireland*.

They directed their Way towards *Eamhain*, and when they came there they resolv'd to divide the Prey they had taken. *Conrigh*, in his *grey Habit*, applied himself to the General for his Choice of what *Jewel* he pleased, which he obliged himself upon Honour to allow him. *Congculionn* made no Objection, and *Conrigh* immediately took the young Lady by the Hand and said, This is the *Jewel* I choose as a Reward for all my Services. The General, who had depended upon her for himself, resolved to sacrifice his Honour to his Love; and forcing the Lady from him, told him, that he had

deceived him by the Manner of his Expression, for he would stand to the Contract only in the Sense he understood it, which was that he might choose which of the precious Stones he would, and that he might do if he pleas'd; but he would not deliver up the Lady, neither did the Laws of Honour oblige him to it. This Answer surpris'd *Conrigh*, who upbraided the General with the Breach of his Word, and resolv'd upon the first Opportunity to seize upon her and convey her out of his reach; and he found means to effect this in a short Time; for tho' he was not able to accomplish it by Force, yet his *Magical Art* never fail'd him, and by Enchantment he stole away the Damsel unperceiv'd, and carried her off. *Congculionn* soon perceiv'd his fair Plunder was gone; and the Man in the *grey Habit* being missing at the same Time, he began to suspect that *Conrigh*, the Son of *Daire*, made use of that Disguise to steal her away, and instantly order'd Messengers every Way to pursue them, and he himself by good Fortune set out toward *Munster*, and overtook *Conrigh* at *Solochoid*. He commanded him to give up the Lady, but he had more Gallantry than to comply, and told him that they would decide their Pretensions in single Combat, and the Victor should claim the Lady as his Prize. *Congculionn* accepted of the Challenge, and the Rivals fought desperately, and the Victory was a long Time doubtful; but *Conrigh* prov'd the happy Man, and overcame the General, whom he used in an ignominious, and, (were it not the Custom of the Country,) in an ungenerous Manner; for he tied him Neck and Heels, and, which is the greatest Testimony of Disgrace, he cut off his *Hair* with his Sword, and left him in a very deplorable Condition. When he had secured his Rival, and expos'd him to all imaginable Shame, he pursued his Journey, and came with his fair *Jewel* into the West of *Munster*.

He had no sooner left the Place of Combat, but *Laoigh*, the Son of *Riogh an Gabhra*, a Servant to *Congculionn*, came up to his Master, and when he had unbound him, took Care of his Wounds, and they retired with all possible Expedition into the Wilderness of *Ulster*, near a Place called *Beanaibh Boirche*; and in this Solitude the disgraced General, attended with his Man, continued for the Space of a Year, in which Time they never appeared in publick, but lived privately, and concealed themselves from the Knowledge

of the Inhabitants. And the Reason of this Resolution was, because it was a Sign of Cowardice, and the most infamous Scandal to a Champion or a professed Soldier to be without his *Hair*. When the Year was expired, *Congculiom*, as he wandered about, came to the Top of *Binn Boirche*, and looking about him he observed a great Flight of large black *Birds* flying from the *North Sea*, and landing upon the Shore. He immediately advanced toward them, and, with an Engine called *Taitbbheim*, he pursued them incessantly Day and Night, and killed a Bird of them in every County of the Kingdom, till he came to *Srabb Broim* in the West of *Munster*.

In his Return he was surpris'd with the Sight of the beautiful *Blanaid*, near the Bank of *Fionnclaife*, a River in the County of *Kerry*, where *Conrigh* had a noble <sup>25allam</sup> Seat, and lived in great State and Magnificence. *Cong-<sup>congeulom</sup>culiom* addressed himself to her, and she immediately <sup>7blanrbe.</sup> knew him; and after they had conversed for a short Time; the Lady could not forbear confessing that she loved him above all Men living, and intreated him to believe that it was against her Consent that she was divorced from him, and therefore desired that about the next *Allballow-tide*, he would come with an armed Force, and deliver her from the Tyranny of a Man, whom she hated, and she would take Care that *Conrigh* should have no Guards about him to oppose the Design, which she was confident if he had but the Courage to attempt, she could assure him of Success. *Congculiom* gallantly promised that he should be prepared for the Adventure by that Time, and depended upon her Management for the happy Issue of it, and with the most endearing Expressions on both Sides they took their Leave. He directly went to the Court of *Connor*, King of *Ulster*, to whom he communicated the Engagements he was under to the Lady, and intreated that he would supply him with a sufficient Body of Troops for the Purpose. The King approved of his Design, and promised him all suitable Assistance and Protection.

In the mean Time *Blanaid*, the better to carry on the Intrigue, and make it safe for her *Lover*, advised *Conrigh*, over whom she had a great Influence, to erect a stately *Palace* for his Residence, that should exceed all the Buildings in the Kingdom; and to make it  
more

more noble, and the better to provide Materials, she thought not improper, since he was in Peace with his Neighbours, to employ his *Soldiery*, who were distinguished by the Name of *Clana Deagha*, to gather all the Stones of a larger Size that stood upright, for the Foundation of the Building, with Design that all the experienced Warriors that belonged to *Conrigh*, should be dispersed all the Kingdom over at the Time when *Congculionn* promised to relieve her, and carry her off. The unfortunate Husband, deceived by this Stratagem, complied, and gave immediate Orders that all his Forces should scatter themselves all the Country over to collect Stones for the Fabrick; and his Commands were obeyed; for he did not reserve so much as a Troop to guard his Person, or to employ upon any Emergencies of the Government.

teaf cong-  
culionn oir  
iriol an dail  
blanrde.

The News, that *Conrigh* had sent away his Army, was soon conveyed to *Congculionn*, who thought this Time the most proper to execute his Purpose; especially since the Forces, made up of the *Clana Deagha*, were likewise removed; for these made up a formidable Band, and were some of the bravest Soldiers in the World. He put himself accordingly at the Head of a resolute Body of Troops that were given him by *Connor*, King of *Ulster*, and began his March. He soon arrived near the Seat of *Conrigh*, and privately lodged his Men in a thick Wood near the Palace. His first Business was to dispatch a Messenger to *Blanaid*, to notify his Arrival, with a sufficient Force to carry her off, which he would attempt in what Manner she proposed. The Lady was transported with the News, and sent him Word that she would take Care, *Conrigh* should be unable to make Opposition; for she would steal his Sword; and he should know what Time was the most proper to attack the Palace by this Sign: There was a Brook which ran from the Seat where *Conrigh* lived, thro' the Wood where *Congculionn* had encamped; into this Rivulet she proposed to pour a large Quantity of *Milk*, sufficient to discolour the Stream, and *Congculionn* was to observe when the Water ran *white*, and immediately to draw out his Men, and break into the Castle. The Messenger returned, and the General strictly observed the Directions, and discovering the Brook to be *white* with the Milk, he sallied out, and forced his Way into the Palace without Opposition, and slew *Conrigh*, who had not so much

Tharbas  
conrig an  
ro.



as a Sword for his Defence, otherwise he would have sold his Life dearly. *Blanaid* threw her self into the Arms of the Conqueror, who carried her away with him into *Ulster*. The Rivulet obtained its Name from this memorable Transaction, and from the *Whiteness* of the Water, occasioned by the *Milk*, was called *Fionnglaise*; for the Word *Fionn* in the *Irish* Language signifies *white*, and *Glaise* is the same with the Word *Brook* in *English*, and by joining both Words they sound *Fionnglaise*.

But the perfidious *Blanaid* did not long survive her Treachery; for the unhappy *Conrigh* retained a *Poet* in his Court, whose Name was *Feircheirtne*, who pursued the Conqueror and his Mistress into *Ulster*, resolving to sacrifice the base Woman to the Ghost of his murder'd Master. When he arrived he found *Congulionn* and *Blanaid* with many of the principal Nobility attending upon *Connor*, the King of that Province, who diverted himself by walking upon the Top of a very steep Rock, called in the *Irish* Language *Rinchin Beara*: The *Poet* watching his Opportunity observed *Blanaid* standing upon the very Edge of the Cliff, and addressing himself, as if he made his Compliment to her, he seized upon her violently with all his Force, and clasping her in his Arms, he threw himself headlong with her down the Precipice, and they were both dashed to Pieces.

I shall no longer interrupt the Connexion of this History, by relating the heroic Exploits and Achievements of the ancient Worthies of *Ireland*; but so much was thought proper to be observed as a Specimen of the Bravery of those ancient Champions, and to convince Posterity that the Ancestors of the *genuine Irish* were a warlike and generous People, and deserve to have their Names and their Actions recorded for their own Honour, and for the Example and Improvement of future Ages. I shall now proceed regularly to the successive Reigns of the *Irish* Monarchs.

*Eochaidh*, who had the Surname of *Aireamb*, succeeded in the Throne; this Prince was the Son of *Fin*, Son of *Finloga*, Son of *Roighnein Ruadh*, Son of *Easamuin Eambna*, Son of *Blathachta*, Son of *Labhra Luirc*, a Descendent from the Royal Line of *Heremon*, and governed the Island twelve Years: He was distinguished by the Name of *Eochaidh Aireamb*, because it was he that first introduced the Custom of burying the Dead in *Graves* dug within the Earth; for the Word

*Amram* in the *Irish* Language signifies a *Grave*. The *Milesians* and their Posterity, before the Reign of this Monarch, were used to cover their Dead by raising great Heaps of *Clay* or *Stones* over their Bodies, which Practice this Prince abolished, as not so decent and secure. He lost his Life by *Siodhmall* at *Freamhain Teabhtha*.

A. M. 3964. *Eidersgeoil* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Eogan*, Son of *Oilioll*, Son of *Jar*, Son of *Deagha*, Son of *Suin*, Son of *Roisin*, Son of *Trein*, Son of *Rothrein*, Son of *Airindil*, Son of *Maine*, Son of *Forga*, Son of *Fearadbach*, Son of *Oiliolla Euron*, Son of *Fiacha Fearmara*, Son of *Aongus Tuirmbeach*, Son of *Eochaidh Foitleathan*, of the Posterity of *Heremon*, and wore the Crown six Years, but was killed by *Nuadha Neacht* at *Allin*.

A. M. 3970. *Nuadha Neacht* was the succeeding Monarch; he was the Son of *Seadna Siobhbach*, Son of *Lugbaidh Loibfin*, Son of *Breasal Breac*, Son of *Fiachadh Fiorbric*, Son of *Oilliolla Glas*, Son of *Fearadbach Foglas*, Son of *Nuadhat Follambain*, Son of *Alloid*, Son of *Art*, Son of *Criomthian Cosgrach*, Son of *Fearadbach Fionn*, Son of *Breasal Breagambuin*, Son of *Aongus Gailine*, descended from the Line of *Heremon*, and reigned but half a Year. He was known by the Name of *Nuagbadh Neacht* from the *Latin* Word *Nix*, which signifies *Snow*; for his *Skin* was so exceeding white as to be compared to the driven *Snow*. This Prince fell by the Sword of *Conaire*, the Son of *Eidersgeoil*.

A. M. 3970. *Conaire*, who was surnamed the *Great*, seized upon the Government; he was the Son of *Eidersgeoil*, Son of *Eogan*, Son of *Oiliolla*, derived from the Line of *Heremon*, and filled the Throne thirty Years, or, if we believe another Computation, he reigned seventy Years.

It is to be observed, that from this Monarch the noble Family of the *Earnighs* in *Munster* descended, and of the *Dalriadhs* in *Scotland*. The *Earnighs* first went into *Munster* in the Time of *Duach Dalta Deagbadh*; and the Occasion of their settling there, as the ancient Poet *Cormac mac Cuillehan* records in his *Psalter of Cashel*, was the superior Force of *Clana Rugbuidhe*, of the Posterity of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, who expelled them out of their former Possessions, and routed them in eight several Engagements, which forced them to fly for Refuge into *Munster*, where they became powerful, and got large Estates, and they flourished in this Province from the Time of *Duach Dalta Deagbadh* to the Reign of *Mogha*

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nix 7 ne  
afda.

o conge mor  
do tainne  
earnigh  
Munster  
dalriadha  
Alban.


*ba Nuagat*, infomuch that they were obliged to extend their Settlements; and in Procefs of Time they spread themselves Westwards of *Iverahagh*; and from thence to the Western Islands in *Munster*, as the History of that Province particularly mentions. This Tribe arrived to that Authority as to take upon themselves the Command of the whole Country, which they governed till the Reign of *Mogha Nuagat*, by whom they were expelled, and forced to seek for new Habitations. *Conaire*, the Monarch of *Ireland*, was deprived of his Crown and his Life by *Aingeal Caol*, Son of the King of *Wales*.

*Lughaidh Riabdearg* fill'd the Throne; He was the A. M. 4000. Son of *Fmeambnas*, Son of *Eodcaidh Feidhlioch*, Son of *Finn*, Son of *Finlogha*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and reign'd over the Kingdom twenty Years; This Monarch enter'd into Alliance with the King of *Denmark*, whose Daughter *Dearborguill*, he obtained for his Wife; He received the Title of *Lughaidh Riabdearg* upon the Account of two Red Circles, one encompass'd his Neck, the other surrounded his Body. Upon some Discontent he put an End to his own Life by falling upon his Sword. There is an Account cuig dea-  
briacá do  
fud an lu-  
gairc yó le  
nandebhrí. to be met with in some of the *Irish* Chronicles, that this Prince was begot by three Brothers, by committing Incest with their own Sister, when they were intoxicated with Wine; the Brothers and the Sister, as the same Authority asserts, were the Children of *Eochaidh Feidhlioch*, one of the Kings of *Ireland*.

*Connor Abbraidbruadh* succeeded in the Government; A. M. 4020. He was the Son of *Feargus Fairge*, Son of *Nuadbadh Neach*, Son of *Seadhna Siobhbaic*, a Prince of the Po- pein do reir  
má leigted. sterity of *Heremon*, and wore the Crown but one Year; the Reason why he was distinguish'd by the Name of *Connor Abbraidbruadh* was, because the Hair of his Eye-brows was Red; for the Word *Abbraidbruadh* in the *Irish* Language signifies *Red Eye-brows*.

*Criomhthán Niadhnar* was his Successor; He was the A. M. 4021. Son of *Lughaidh Riabdearg*, descended from the Line of *Heremon*, and reign'd Monarch of the Island sixteen Years. He was known by the Name of *Criomhthán Niadhnar*, because he was one of the bravest and most victorious le iméirim-  
eín do na-  
gao loíad  
eínio. Champions of the Age he lived in; for the Word *Niadh* in the *Irish* Language signifies a *Bold Hero*. It was in the twelfth Year of the Reign of this Prince, that *Jesus*

*Christ*

 *Christ* the Saviour of the World was born: His Death was occasioned by an unfortunate Fall from his Horse.

A. D. 4. *Fearaidbach Fionfachtnach* obtained the Government; He was the Son of *Criomthian Niadhnar*, Son of *Lughaidh Riabhdearg*, of the Posterity of the Line of *Heremon*, and he reigned twenty Years; his Mother was *Nar Tath Chaoch*, Daughter of *Laoch* Son of *Daire*, who liv'd in the Land of the *Picts* or *Scotland*. He was distinguish'd by the honourable Title of *Fearaidbach Fionfachtnach*; because he was a Prince of strict *Justice*, and govern'd his Subjects with *Equity* and Moderation all his Reign; for the Word *Fachtnach* in the *Irish* Language signifies *just* and *equitable*; and he had the most lawful Claim to that Title, for a Monarch of more Integrity and Virtue never sat upon the Throne of *Ireland*. In the Reign of this Prince it was, that *Moran*, the Son of *Maoin*, lived, and was the Chief *Justice* of the Kingdom. He was called, by Way of Eminence, the *just Judge*, and he was the first that wore the wonderful *Collar*, called in the *Irish* Language *Jadh Morain*.

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47 10. This *Collar* was attended with a most surprising Virtue; for if it was tied about the Neck of a wicked Judge, who intended to pronounce false Judgment, it would immediately *shrink*, and contract it self close, and almost stop the Breath; but if the Person that wore it chang'd his Resolution, and resolved sincerely to be *just* in his Sentence, it would instantly enlarge itself, and hang loose about the Neck. This miraculous *Collar* was likewise used, to prove the Integrity of the Witnesses, who were to give Evidence in the Courts of Judicature; and if it were tied about the Neck of a Person who designed to give a false Testimony, it would wonderfully shrink close and extort the Truth, or continue contracting it self till it had throttled him. And from this Practice arose the Custom in the Judicatories of the Kingdom, for the Judge, when he suspected the Veracity of a Witness, and proposed to terrify him to give true Evidence, to charge him solemnly to speak the Truth, for his Life was in Danger if he falsified, because the *Fatal Collar*, the *Jadh Morain* was about his Neck, and would inexorably proceed to Execution. This *Fearaidbach Fionfachtnach* died a natural Death at *Liatrym*.

A. D. 24. *Fiachadh Fion* (from whom descended lineally the *Dail Fiathach*) was the succeeding Monarch; he

was the Son of *Daire*, Son of *Bluthig*, Son of *Deitsin*, Son of *Eochaidh*, Son of *Suin*, Son of *Rosin*, derived from the princely Stock of *Heremon*; he sat upon the Throne three Years, and fell by the Sword of *Fiachadh Fionoluidh*.

*Fiachadh Fionoluidh* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Fearaidhach Finsachtnach*, descended from the Posterity of *Heremon*, and governed the Kingdom twenty Years. He was called the Prince of the *white Cows*, and the Reason of this Distinction was, because all the Time of his Reign the greatest Number of the Cows were *white* over all the Kingdom: This gave him the Name of *Fionoluidh*; for the Word in the *Irish* Language signifies *white Cows*, *Fionn* is the same as *white*, and *Oluidh* is in the *English* a Cow. It must be observed in this Place, that the Chronicle of *Stow* asserts, that the *Scots* had possessed themselves of the Kingdom of *Scotland* in the Year of our Redemption seventy three, which was before *Carbre Riada* was born. This *Fiachadh* was murdered by the *Plebeians* of *Ireland*, called in the *Irish* Language *Anbeach Tuatha*.

*Cairbre Cinncait* filled the Throne; he was the Son of *Dubhbhaig*, Son of *Rughruidhe*, Son of *Diocluin*, Son of *Tait*, Son of *Luighre*, Son of *Oiris*, Son of *Earn-duilbh*, Son of *Rionoil*, Son of the King of *Denmark*, who came into *Ireland* with *Labhra Lungseach* to the Fort of *Tuama Teambhoith*, and he sat upon the Throne five Years: He was, as some of the Chronicles assert, descended from the Posterity of the *Firbolgs*, and was known by the Name of *Cairbre Cinncait*, because his Ears were of an uncommon Shape, and resembled the Ears of a *Cat*. This Prince fixed himself in the Government by one of the most barbarous Acts of Treason that is to be met with in History. The Manner was thus.

There was a Conspiracy form'd by the common and rascally People of the Kingdom, the ordinary Mechanics, and the meanest of the *Plebeians* to dethrone the reigning Monarch, to murder the Nobility and Gentry, and by that Means to seize upon the Government; and to accomplish their Design, which was carried on with the utmost Secrecy, they resolved to provide a most magnificent Entertainment, and to invite the King, the petty Princes, the Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom to the Feast, that was to



be celebrated at a Place called *Magh Cru* in the Province of *Conacht*. This Feast was three Years in making ready; for they could not furnish suitable Provision for so numerous an Assembly in less Time; and within that Space the Conspirators reserved and laid up the third Part of their Corn and other Necessaries to furnish the Entertainment. When every Thing was thus prepared with great State and Plenty, the King and Princes, the Nobility and Gentry of the Island were invited, and fatally accepted of the Invitation to their own Ruin. The principal Guest was *Fiachadh Fionoluidh*, the Monarch of *Ireland*, who brought his Queen with him, her Name was *Eibne*, Daughter to the King of *Scotland*; the second in Quality was *Feidh*, Son of *Fidbeigh Chaoich*, King of *Munster*, he had his Wife with him, whose Name was *Beartha*, Daughter to the King of *Wales*; the third was *Breasal*, the Son of *Firb*, King of *Ulster*, his Wife likewise was present at the Entertainment, and her Name was *Aine*, Daughter of the King of *England*. These Princes were attended with a numerous and splendid Retinue, which consisted of the prime Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom.

pleas brat  
actuac an  
ro 7c.

There were three Persons particularly who were the Ring-leaders, and principally directed this Conspiracy; their Names were *Monach*, *Buan*, and *Carbre Cinncait* that usurped the Government of *Ireland*, who was the chief Traytor, and by his wicked Policy contrived the Entertainment. The Feast continued for the Space of nine Days, in great Splendor, and when that Time was expired, the *Plebeians* and the vilest Scum of the People, led on by their Generals, fell suddenly upon the royal Guests, the Nobility and all the Company, and put them to the Sword without Distinction, except the three Queens, who, by good Providence, were all big with Child, and moved the Compassion of the Traytors: But they resolved not to trust long to their Mercy; for upon the first Opportunity they made their Escape, and landed safely in *Scotland*. Here they fell in Travail, and each of them was delivered of a Son, whose Names were *Fuathal Teachtmhar*, *Tiobruide Tiriach*, and *Corbuan*.

mābas ēnī  
rīoēs āsur  
mon rāpīle  
eīpīoñ an  
ro.

These Confusions so distressed the People, that they were reduced to the utmost Extremities, and to a State of Despondency: They had no Encouragement to follow their Business and Occupations; the Fields lay unmanur'd, and a most desperate Famine followed: These

were

were the Effects of the Usurpation, which at last opened the Eyes of the Inhabitants, who began to inquire after the young Princes, and resolved to restore them to their just Rights. When they had Intelligence that they were in *Scotland*, they invited them in the most submissive Manner to return to their Country, and deliver their Subjects out of the Hands of those Tyrants, who had oppressed them for many Years; and they promised to vindicate their Titles, and put them in Possession of their Crowns. The Princes, unwilling to rely wholly upon the loyal Tenders of the unsteady Populace, would not accept of the Invitation, unless they would bind themselves by an Oath of Allegiance to continue in their Obedience, which they willingly submitted to; and accordingly the exiled Kings led them back into *Ireland*, where they were received by the general Acclamations of the People; the Tyrants were destroyed, the Country was restored to its former State of Plenty and Happiness, and a final End put to the Usurpation.

Since we are relating the Lives of the ancient *Irish* Monarchs, it may not be improper to obviate an Objection that might be offered concerning the Genealogy of these Princes; for if it should be thought surprising that the *Irish* Writers of late Ages deduce the Descent of the Kings either from the Sons of *Milesius*, or from *Lugbaidh*, the Son of *Ith*; and likewise if it should seem unaccountable, that the principal Families of *Ireland* to this Day derive their Original from some of the Branches of the *Milesian* Line, without owning themselves to be the Descendents of any Officer or Soldier, who came over in this Expedition, and, it may be presumed, left a Posterity behind them: In Answer to these Difficulties, it must be observed, that the ancient Records of the Kingdom, particularly the Books that treat of the Reigns and Conquests of the Kings, take express Notice of the Ruin and Extirpation of the Posterity of the *Milesian* Soldiery; for in Process of Time they degenerated into a barbarous and rebellious Race of Men, and used their Princes in the most seditious and inhuman Manner; for which turbulent and disloyal Practices the Monarchs by Degrees weeded them out of the Kingdom; and those few that remained, were so vile and infamous, that the Antiquaries never preserved their Genealogies, but passed them over in Oblivion,

as a Reproach and Scandal to the *Irish* Nation. But to return to our History.

A. D. 59. *Elim* obtained the Government of the Island; he was the Son of *Conrach*, Son of *Rugbruidhe*, Son of *Sithrighe*, Son of *Dubb*, Son of *Fomboir*, of the royal Line of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*, and reigned twenty Years, but was at Length slain by *Tuathal Teachtmair* at the Battel of *Aichle*.

A. D. 79. *Tuathal Teachtmair* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Fiachadh Fionoladh*, Son of *Fearaidhach Fion Feachtmaigh*, Son of *Criomthian Niadhnar*, of the Posterity of *Heremon*, and fill'd the Throne thirty Years. He received the Name of *Tuathal Teachtmair*, from that State of Plenty and publick Tranquillity, which he settled over the whole Kingdom by succeeding in the Govern-

edinnis a  
Rait fein d  
eipin le tin  
tuatall ce-  
aſmair 7ē.

ment for the Word *Teachtmair* in the *Irish* Language signifies *Fruitfulness* and *Prosperity*. This *Tuathal Teachtmair* was the only Child of *Fiachadh Fionoluidh*, and his Mother was big with Child of him when she was forced to fly into *Scotland*, some Time after the bloody Massacre of *Magh Cru* in *Conacht*, at which Time the *Plebeians* rebell'd, and by murdering the reigning Princes, the Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom, seized upon the Government. The Mother of this Monarch took great Care of his Education, and brought him up suitable to his Quality, till he was twenty five Years of Age. It has been observed before, that the Kingdom of *Ireland* suffered great Calamities under the Tyranny of the Usurpers, and was particularly distress'd by a fore and long Famine: These Miseries at length rous'd up the Spirit of the People, who applied themselves to their learned Druids and Soothsayers to know the Cause of these Misfortunes, and what Remedy would be effectual to redress them. The Priests had Recourse to their Art, and upon Consultation they found that the Cause of all their Afflictions, was the barbarous Murder of the Kings, the Nobility and Gentry, and the Expulsion of the lawful Heirs; and therefore they told the *Plebeians*, that nothing could atone to Heaven for their Disloyalty and Barbarities, and remove the Famine out of the Land, but a Resolution to return to their Allegiance, to recall their exil'd Monarch, and establish him upon the Throne of his Ancestors, which was the only Method to recover the State out of Confusion, and settle the Tranquillity of the Nation. The *Plebeians* re-

ceid doon  
elandeipion  
decomgle  
ne na nde-  
oitib.

duc'd to the last Extremity by Want, were pleas'd with this Answer, and finding upon Inquiry, that *Fiachadh Fionoluidh* had a Son in *Scotland*, whose Name was *Tuathal*, they consulted together to send Messengers to *Scotland* with a Tender of their Loyalty, and an Offer to fix the injured King upon the Throne of his Progenitors.

And to favour the Restoration of this young Prince, there were some of the Nobility and Gentry remaining in the Country, who had the Fortune not to be present at the Entertainment when the Massacre was committed; These were upon all occasions promoting the Interest of *Tuathal Teachtmar*, and disposing the People to insist upon his Return; the Chief of these was *Clan-  
duin Deasui* out of *Leinster*.

But there were two Gentlemen, *Fiachadh Caisinn*, and *Fionmal* his Cousin, who signally distinguish'd themselves in these dangerous Times against the Party of the Usurpers; for they rais'd five hundred resolute Men, and when they were well arm'd and disciplin'd, they ranged about the Country, spoiling and killing the *Plebeian* Rebels in all Parts of the Kingdom, which was a great Support to the *Royal Cause*, and by Degrees so dispirited the Male-contents, that they began to long for a Change of Government, and passionately desired a Revolution.

The Messengers of the People arriving in *Scotland*, delivered their Credentials to *Tuathal Teachtmar*, who being inform'd of the deplorable State of his oppress'd Country, resolv'd to attempt a Recovery of his Right, and abolish the Tyranny of the Usurpers. Accordingly he went on board with all possible Expedition, and taking his Mother with him, who was *Eithne* the Daughter of the King of *Scotland*, and a strong Body of old experienced Soldiers, he landed safely at *Jor-  
rus Domhronn*. Here he met with the loyal Party of Forces, headed by the brave *Fiachadh Caisinn*, who were plundering and destroying the Country of the Rebels with Fire and Sword; and joining with their Troops, the young Prince directed his March to *Tara*, where he found the principal Men of the Kingdom assembled in his Favour, who received him with joyful Acclamations, and in a solemn and magnificent Manner proclaimed *Tuathal* King of *Ireland*.



an tustal  
teafing ro  
doimur cuig  
eada pioz  
ehioo ingae  
eoiGe do ei  
pin.

*Elim* the Son of *Conrach*, had then possess'd himself of the Government of *Ireland*, being an elective King chosen by the Suffrage of the *Plebeians*, after the Death of *Canbre Cinn Cait*. The Usurper alarm'd at these Proceedings, prepared himself for Defence, and having raised what Power the Exigency of the Time would permit, he marched what Forces he had against *Tuathal*, and gave him Battel at *Aichle*, where his new raised Army were soon broken and defeated, and he himself slain. This Success so animated the royal Party, that they persued their Victory, and fell upon the *Plebeians*, and routed them in all Parts of the Kingdom: But this was not accomplished without great Difficulty; for the Rebels had made themselves strong by a Possession of five and twenty Years, and they tried their Fortune in several Engagements before they were absolutely quell'd. But at length, by the superior Bravery of the King's Troops, they were reduced; for they were defeated in five and twenty Battels in *Leinster*, in five and twenty Battels in *Conacht*, and in five and twenty Battels in *Munster*.

do ehup  
tuatal te-  
afing olig-  
te 7 reafa  
d bun an ei-  
pin amr! do  
boe ag na  
Miste eain-  
76 Roime.

*Tuathal*, by these repeated Victories, put an End to the Usurpation, redeem'd the Nobility and Gentry from the Oppression of the *Commons*, and restored Happiness and Tranquillity to the Kingdom. When he had fixed himself in the Government, he convened the general Assembly of *Tarah*, after the Example of his royal Predecessors in the Throne of *Ireland*, who always summon'd a Parliament in the Beginning of their Reigns, to debate upon the Affairs of the State, and consult the Welfare and Peace of the Publick. The Nobility and Gentry of the Island joyfully met him, and in this Convention they recognised his Title to the Crown, confessed him to be their lawful and rightful Monarch, and promised to support his Government against all foreign and domestick Enemies with their Lives and Fortunes. And as a farther Testimony of their Loyalty, they engaged to continue the Succession in his Family for ever, in the very same Manner as they promised to *Ugaine More*, one of his Predecessors.

In this Assembly it was, that *Tuathal* separated a Tract of Land from each of the four Provinces, which met together at a certain Place; and of that Part which he took he made the Country of *Meath*, as it appears at this Day. For tho' the Territory of Land, that is adjacent



adjacent to *Visneach*, was known by the Name of *Meath*, from the Time of the Sons of *Nemedius*, till the Reign of this Monarch *Tuathal*, yet the Proportion that was thus separated and divided from the rest, was not so called till the Time of this Prince, who established it as a distinct Part of the Country from every one of the Provinces, as before mentioned.

In each Portion taken out of the Provinces *Tuathal* erected a magnificent Palace; in the Tract he divided from *Munster*, and added to *Meath*, he built the royal Seat of *Tlachtga*, where the Fire *Tlachtga* was ordained to be kindled. The Use of this *sacred Fire* was to summon the Priests, the Augurs and *Druids* of *Ireland*, to repair thither, and assemble upon the Eve of *All Saints*, in order to consume the Sacrifices that were offered to their *Pagan* Gods; and it was established under the Penalty of a great Fine, that no other *Fire* should be kindled upon that Night throughout the Kingdom; so that the Fire, that was to be used in the Country, was to be derived from this *holy Fire*; for which Privilege the People were to pay a *Scraball*, which amounts to *three Pence* every Year, as an Acknowledgment to the King of *Munster*, because the Palace of *Tlachtga*, where this *Fire* burn'd, was the Proportion taken from the Province of *Munster*, and added to the Country of *Meath*.

The second royal Palace that was erected, was in the Proportion taken from the Province of *Conacht*, and here was a general *Convocation* assembled of all the Inhabitants of the Kingdom that were able to appear, which was called the Convocation of *Visneach*, and kept upon the first Day of *May*, where they offered Sacrifices to the principal Deity of the Island, whom they adored under the Name of *Beul*. Upon this Occasion they were used to kindle two Fires in every Territory in the Kingdom, in Honour of this *Pagan* God. It was a solemn Ceremony at this Time to drive a Number of Cattel of every Kind between these Fires; this was conceived to be an Antidote and a Preservation against the Murrain, or any other pestilential Distemper among Cattel for the Year following; and from these Fires that were made in Worship of the God *Beul*, the Day upon which the *Christian* Festival of St. *Philip* and St. *James* is observed, is called in the *Irish* Language *Beul-tinne*. The Derivation of the Word is thus, *La* in *Irish*

*Irish* signifies a *Day*, *Beul* is the Name of the Pagan Deity, and *Teinne* is the same with *Fire* in the *English*, which Words, when they are pronounced together, sound *La Beultinne*. At this Time the Inhabitants, for Want of the Conveniency of coined Money, would change and barter their Horses, their Arms, or what other valuable Things they had, for different Necessaries which they had Occasion for, which was the Way of buying and selling in those Ages. The King of *Conacht*, as a Tribute and Acknowledgment, had a Horse and Arms for every Lord of a Mannor or Chieftain of Lands that came to this Assembly; and the Reason of this Claim was, because the Tract of *Visneach* was a Proportion separated from the Province of *Conacht*, in order to enlarge the Borders of *Meath*.

The third royal Seat erected by *Tuathal*, was the Palace of *Tailtean* which was a Territory added to *Meath*, and originally belong'd to the Province of *Ulster*. At this Place was the celebrated *Fair* of *Tailtean* held, which was the more remarkable in that the Inhabitants of the Island brought their Children hither, that were of a suitable Age, and contracted with one another, about the *Marriage* of them. And the strictest and most becoming Order was observed in this Meeting; for the Men were placed by themselves, the Women likewise had a peculiar Place at a convenient Distance assign'd them, where they treated about the Disposal of their Children; and when the Articles were agreed upon, they proceeded to the Ceremony.

mnd 3 ldrē  
leo pēn7 nd  
pīn 3 leirē  
leo pēn 7c.

It must be observ'd here, that *Lughaidh Lamhshada*, was the first Monarch, who establish'd the *Fair* of *Tailtean*, in Honour to the Memory of *Tailte* the Daughter of *Maghmor* King of *Spain*, and Wife to *Eochadh* the Son of *Eirc*, the last King of the *Firbolgs*, as before mentioned. In this Field was buried that renowned Queen by *Lughaidh Lamhshadha*, who, in Commemoration of her, instituted the *Fair* of *Tailtean*; because she had taken Care of his Education in his Minority, and accomplish'd him in polite Learning, and the Discipline of Arms till he was grown a Man. This *Fair* was then kept upon the Day known in the *Irish* Language by the Name of *La Lughnasa*, in the Month of *August*, which is as much as to say, the *Day* ordained by *Lughaidh*, and is called in *English* *Lammas Day*, observ'd upon the first Day of the Month of *August*. But notwithstanding

ing the *Fair of Tailtean* was ordained before the Reign of *Tuathal Teachtmair*, yet there was no *Palace* erected in that Place till the Time of this *Irish Monarch*; and because the Seat of *Tailtean* in the Country of *Meath* was separated from the Province of *Ulster*, the King of that Province laid Claim to a Tribute or Acknowledgment arising from that *Fair*, which consisted in an *Ounce of Silver* from every Couple that were contracted and married at that Time.

The fourth royal Seat erected by *Tuathal Teachtmair*, was the Palace of *Teamhair*, that is, *Tara*, which was added to *Meath*, and belonged originally to the Province of *Leinster*. In this stately Fabrick the general Meeting of the several Estates of the Kingdom was held, which Convention was called the *Royal Assembly of Tara*. This Parliament was summon'd once in three Years, and was distinguished likewise by the Name of *Fas Teambrach*: The Business of this Assembly was to enact wholesome Laws for the Government of the Kingdom, to examine into the ancient Chronicles and Records, to purge them of all false and spurious Relations, and to settle the Genealogies of the renowned *Gadeli-ans*. The Pedigrees and noble Exploits of the several Families in the Island were brought before this Assembly, who appointed a select Committee of the most learned Antiquaries to search into the Truth and Authority of them; and if they were approved, and passed the Scrutiny, they were admitted by the Parliament, and transcribed into the royal Records, called the *Psalter of Tara*; so that whatever Laws, Customs, or Genealogies, were offered to be introduced, if they were not upon Inquiry to be found in this venerable and authentic *Journal*, they were not admitted as genuine, but were rejected as an Imposition upon Posterity.

The Bounds of this History will not allow of a particular Account of the several Laws and Institutions established by this Convention, which I am certain will take up a Volume of themselves, and may hereafter, upon proper Encouragement, be communicated to the Publick; yet it may be convenient to repeat in some Measure what was observed before, and speak of the Regularity and decent Order observed in the magnificent *Entertainments* provided for the several *Members* of this *Triennial Parliament* during the Time of their Session.

~ This Assembly did not only consist of the principal Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom, but the military Officers and the principal Commanders of the Army were admitted to a Place in these Debates; and the Name of every Officer that was in full Pay, and employed in Defence of the Country, with the Date of his Commission, was inrolled by the learned Antiquaries in the royal Records. The Nobility and Gentry likewise had their Names inserted in the List by publick Authority, according to their several Qualities; and by the Superiority of their Degrees every Member had a Right to a Place at these Entertainments.

When the Dinner was prepared, and the Apartment ready, every Guest had a Servant to attend upon him, and to carry his *Target*, which he delivered to the Antiquaries, who hung them up according to their Enrollment. The Dining-Room was a long and narrow Building, with Tables placed against each Side of the Room, only allowing a Space for a Waiter to stand behind. Above the Table were Hooks fixed in the Wall at convenient Distances, upon which the Targets of the Nobility, the Gentry, and commanding Officers, were hung up by the learned Antiquaries or Heralds, whose Office it was; by which Means every Member knew the Place appointed for him to sit; for they were to take their Places under their own Targets, which were easily distinguished by the Coats of Arms, blazon'd upon the Outside of them; so that there was no Dispute about Precedence and Pre-eminency; for by these Methods it was impossible to mistake. The Table on the Right Hand was appointed for the Nobility, who were possessed of the greatest Estates; that on the Left Hand was for the principal Officers, who had the highest Posts in the Army, and for the rest of the Members. The End of the Apartment was allotted to the Antiquaries, the Historians, the Judges, the Poets, and Men of Learning in all Professions, who were allowed to sit in this Convention. A Space was left between the Table and the Wall for the Attendants. Before the Dinner every Person was to go out of the Room, and the Members were to be called in by three loud Blasts of a *Trumpet*; and several other Ceremonies were observed to raise the State and Solemnity of this Convention, which are particularly described in the Reign of *Ollamb Fodbla*, a preceding Monarch, and therefore shall not be repeated

ruatancor  
gat flats  
7 gat tcor  
rue an ar  
reit anro  
7c.

ta enab  
rtaoile 3  
an onouhab  
ro abplai  
eios ollam  
posla 7c.

peated in this Place as an Incumbrance upon the History.

It was this Prince *Tuathal Teachtmár*, that first laid the Tribute or chief Rent, called *Boroimbe*, upon the Province of *Leinster*, which he exacted as Satisfaction for the Death of two young Princeesses his Daughters, who lost their Lives upon the Account of the King of *Leinster*; their Names were *Fithir* and *Dairine*. The King of this Province, called *Eochaidh Ainchean*, was married to *Dairine* the eldest Sister, and brought her away with him to his royal Palace in *Leinster*. About a Year after the Marriage, this lascivious Prince, not contented with the Embraces of his Lady, went craftily to *Tara* to the Court of *Tuathal Teachtmár*, and told him that his Daughter *Dairine* was Dead, which Loss could no Way be repaired to him, unless he would condescend to bestow her Sister upon him; for he valued the Honour of his Friendship, which would be more sacred and lasting by this Alliance, and in some Measure contribute toward the publick Peace of the Kingdom. This Request was complied with by the King of *Ireland*, and the Princess *Fithir* was deliver'd to *Eochaidh Ainchean*, who married her, and took her with him to his own Province. When she arrived she found her Sister *Dairine*, and was so surpris'd and overcome with Shame at the Sight of her, that she fainted away, and could never be recover'd; for she instantly died. bar da m-gead tua-  
cal anso. The unfortunate *Dairine*, not suspecting the Virtue of her Sister, was so affected with the Loss of her, that she threw her self upon the dead Body, and the Passion of Grief was so violent that she fell into Convulsions, which immediately put an End to her Life. This melancholy Accident is taken Notice of by a very antient Poet in this Manner.

*Two Princeesses, the Daughters of Tuathal,  
The fair Dairine, and the lovely Fithir,  
Fell by the Lust of Eochaidh Ainchean;  
The virtuous Fithir died with guiltless Shame,  
And Dairine, overcome with Grief,  
Would not survive her Sister's Fate.*

The *Irish* Monarch, inform'd of the tragical End of his two Daughters, resolv'd to revenge their Death upon the King of *Leinster*, whose Treachery and Falshood had

†

destroy'd



destroy'd two of the most beautiful Ladies in the whole Kingdom. He immediately therefore dispatch'd Messengers throughout the Island to complain of the Indignity offered him, and demanded Assistance of the principal Nobility and Gentry, to vindicate his abused Honour, and to chastise the Baseness of the unfaithful *Eochaidh*. They received his Letters, and resenting the Affront in a proper Manner, as became good Subjects, they raised an Army with all Expedition; and when they were well fitted out, they were sent to *Tuathal* to support the Justice of his Cause, and to invade the Territories of the King of *Leinster*.

neic tuat-  
ail deoin-  
ne laigean.

Supported with a numerous and resolute Body of Troops, *Tuathal* marched into the Province of *Leinster* with Fire and Sword, making most dreadful Depredations, and miserably distressing the Inhabitants. *Eochaidh* informed of the Miseries of his People, designed at first to raise an Army, and give Battel to the Enemy; but when he understood the Strength of the *Irish* Forces, he found he was unable to make Head against them in the Field, and therefore in the most submissive Manner desired a Cessation of Arms, and by Treaty to compound the Dispute. The King of *Ireland* had it in his Power to destroy and over-run the whole Province, but being of a merciful Disposition, he consented to withdraw his Troops, and restrain them from plundering the Country, if the King and People of *Leinster* would bind themselves by solemn Engagements to pay a certain Tribute every second Year to him and his Successors in the Throne of *Ireland*, which Contract should oblige the King and the Inhabitants of the Province for ever. These Terms were accepted by *Eochaidh* and his Subjects with great Satisfaction; and the Tribute and Acknowledgment that was demanded by *Tuathal* for the Death of his Daughters was threescore hundred Cows, threescore hundred Hogs, threescore hundred Wethers, threescore hundred Copper Cauldrons, threescore hundred Ounces of Silver, and threescore hundred Mantles. This Tribute was ordered to be disposed of in this Manner, a third Part of it was to be paid to the People of *Ongiallach*, a third Part to the Inhabitants of *Conacht*, and the remaining Part to *Jobb Neill*. A Poet of great Antiquity has transmitted an Account of this Transaction in the following

an éain do  
biolcngéle  
tuatál te-  
af iná 7 le  
da píccib  
nig na diaig  
anfo 7c.

Lines,

Lines, which exactly agree with the old History called *Boirombe Laighean*, or, the Fine of *Leinster*.

*As Tribute for the Death of the two Princesses,  
And in Revenge for the base Act of Eochaidh,  
The Men of Leinster were oblig'd to pay  
To Tuathal and all the Monarchs after him,  
Threescore hundred of the fairest Cows  
And threescore hundred Ounces of pure Silver,  
And threescore hundred Mantles richly woven,  
And threescore hundred of the fattest Hogs  
And threescore hundred of the largest Sheep,  
And threescore hundred Caldrons strong and polish'd.  
This Tribute was appointed to be sent,  
A third Part to the Inhabitants of Conacht,  
Another third to Oirgiall, and the rest  
To Jobh Neill.*

This Tax was known in *Ireland* by the Name of *Boirombe Laighean*, or the Tribute of *Leinster*, and was duly paid every second Year during the Reign of forty Monarchs of *Ireland* after *Tuathal* who first receiv'd it, as the Poet has given us to understand in this Manner.

*To forty royal Monarchs of the Isle,  
This heavy Tribute was exactly paid,  
From the renown'd Tuathal's Restoration;  
To Fianachta's happy Reign.*

The Province of *Leinster* was deliver'd from the Payment of this Tax by the Intercession of St. *Moling*, who obtain'd from *Fianachta* a Forbearance till *Munday* (as he express'd it) the Saint, it seems, had an equivocal Evasion, for he meant the *Monday* of *Doomsday*, by which Artifice he over-reach'd the King, who remitted the Tribute.

It has been observ'd that this Fine of *Leinster*, was paid for many Ages; but sometimes when the Kingdom of *Ireland* was invaded or disturb'd by Civil Commotions, the King of the Province would refuse to send his Tax, which occasion'd many Wars and fatal Disputes; for the *Irish* Monarchs would insist upon their Right and defend it by Arms, and by these Contests and Quarrels many of the Nobility and Gentry were slain on

both Sides; but the greatest Calamities fell generally upon the Province.

During the Reign of *Tuathal Teachtmair* (as the *Irish* Records of *Tara* expressly mention) there were two general Assemblies convened within the Kingdom of *Ireland*, the first was summoned to the Palace of *Eamhain* in *Ulster*, the other met at *Cruachan* in the Province of *Conacht*. The most remarkable Ordinances and Laws that were debated and established in these great Councils of the Nation were these that follow. It was enacted that all the Annals, Histories and other publick Chronicles of the Kingdom should be examined and revised, and the same Method should be used in fixing their Authority, as was ordained by the Committee of the triennial Parliament in the Reign of that illustrious Monarch *Óllamb Fodbla*; for great Corruptions had been introduced from the Murther of *Fiachadh Fionluidh* under the Usurpation of the *Plebeians*, and those Conventions had been discontinued till the Restoration of *Tuathal*.

It was likewise established in that august Assembly by the King and his Nobles, that the Artificers, the Tradesmen, and Handicrafts-men of the Kingdom should be brought under Regulation; for which End the Mechanics of all Occupations, Smiths, Carpenters, Musicians, and all other ingenious Professions were summon'd to attend upon these triennial Parliaments; when they came, a select Committee was appointed to examine into the Skill and Abilities of every Mechanick, and to make Choice of sixty of the most eminent in their several Professions, who had Authority by Commission to govern and be Supervisors over the rest. Every one of these had the proper Extent of his Jurisdiction settled; and their Office was to reform all Abuses in their several Professions, and suspend such as were unskilful, or by Mismanagement brought their Art into Disrepute, from the Exercise of their Trades. So that no Person was allowed publickly to practise his Art, or profess any mechanical Employment, without a *License* from these Commissioners, after he had been strictly examined and accepted by Reason of his Abilities in the Trade and Business he designed to follow. These Supervisors invested with this Authority were known in the *Irish* Language by the Name of *Jollanuidh*, which signifies *skilful* and

*able Mechanics.* Before this Time it must be observed that very few of the Posterity of the *Milesians* professed any Trade or Occupation, but were generally Persons of some Estate, or employed in the Army or in other publick Posts of the Government. The *Mechanicks* of the Country in those Days were the Remnant of the *Tuatha de Danans*, who were permitted to stay in the Kingdom, the *Brigantes* and some of the principal *Plebeians*; the lower Branches of the *Milesian* Race were the *Militia* of the Island, the *Historians*, *Antiquaries*, *Harpers*, *Physicians*, and *Brebon* or Judges, and other publick Officers of the State, who would not submit to any manual Labour, lest they should degrade, and derive a Stain upon the Honour of their Families.

This Monarch *Tuathal Teachtmair* was slain by his Successor *Mal*, the Son of *Rughruidh*.

*Mal*, the Son of *Rughruidh* seized upon the Government; his Grandfather was *Cathbadha*, Son of *Giallachadha Finn*, Son of *Fionchadha*, Son of *Muireadhuagh*, Son of *Fiachadh Fionnamhaig*, Son of *Iriel Glunmar*, Son of *Connall Cearnach*, Son of *Amergin Jargiunnaigh*, Son of *Cas Trillfigh*, Son of *Fachtina*, Son of *Cana*, Son of *Gionga*, Son of *Ruighruidh More* (from whom *Clanna Ruighruidhe* obtained its Name) a Descendent from the Posterity of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, the King of *Spain*; he filled the Throne of *Ireland* four Years, and fell by the Sword of *Feidhlin Reachtmar*, Son of *Tuathal Teachtmair Feidhlin*.

*Feidhlimidh Reachtmar* was his Successor; he was the Son of *Tuathal Teachtmair*, Son of *Fiachadh Fionoluidh*, derived from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and wore the Crown nine Years; the Mother of this *Irish* Monarch was *Baine*, the Daughter of *Sgaile Balbh*, the King of *England*. This Prince was distinguished by the Name of *Feidhlimidh Reachtmar* because he governed his Subjects, and administered Justice among them by the most equitable Law of *Retaliation*. Every Sentence and Decree that he passed upon an Offender, was strictly conformable to this ancient Law, which he enjoined with the same Exactness in all the publick Judicatories of the Kingdom. If a Criminal had defrauded another of his Cattel, his Sheep, or any Part of his Property, or had destroyed the Use of a Leg, an Arm, or an Eye, or of whatever Nature the Offence was, was obliged to make Satisfaction by this Law. And

by the Dread of this severe, tho' just, Decree, were the inferior Subjects of *Ireland* terrified into Humanity, Integrity and good Manners, and became an honest and worthy People. From this Method of Punishment and Retribution was this Prince distinguished by the Name of *Feidblimbídh Reachtmar*, and Providence rewarded him for the Justice of his Administration; for he did not fall by the Sword, as did most of his Predecessors, but died a natural Death.

A. D. 122. *Cathair More*, who was surnamed the *Great*, was the succeeding Monarch; he was the Son of *Feidblimbídh Fionniglais*, Son of *Cormac Gealta Gaoth*, Son of *Níadh Corb*, Son of *Concorb*, Son of *Modha Corb*, Son of *Conchabhar Abrarnadhe*, Son of *Feargus Fairge*, a Prince descended from the Posterity of *Heremon*, and he governed the Kingdom three Years. This King had thirty Sons, as an old Poet has given us to understand in this Manner.

*Descended from the Loins of Cathair More  
Were thirty Princes most renown'd in Arms,  
Most comely Personages and Heroes all.*

Yet we are assured that twenty of these Princes died and left no Issue behind them; the remaining ten married and had many Children; the Names of these Brothers, who survived, were *Rosa Failge*, *Daire Barrach*, *Breafal*, *Eineach Glas*, *Feargus*, *Oilioll*, *Criomthan Dearg*, *Maisneach*, *Eochaidh Teimkin*, *Aongus*, *Fiachaidh Baiceada*, who was the youngest Prince of the Family; notwithstanding this last Branch obtained the Government of the Province of *Leinster*, and were Kings of that Country for many Ages.

From *Rosa*, the eldest Son of this Monarch, *Cathair More*, who was surnamed *Failge*, which signifies the Hero of the *Rings*, descended the most princely and illustrious Family of *O Connor Faly*. The Word *Faly*, it must be observed, is an evident Corruption of *Failge*, which in the *Irish* Language signifies *Rings*. From this Prince *Failge*, who was the eldest Son of the Posterity of *Cathair More*, distinguished by the honourable Name of *O Connor Faly* or *Failge*, as appears evidently from all the authentick Records of *Ireland* in general, and particularly by the Genealogy preserved thro' so many Ages of the illustrious Family of

*O Connor*

Smryen yle-  
nye eata-  
on koip di-  
ro.



*O Connor Faly*, which testifies, that the hereditary Princes of *Leinster*, successively retained the ancient Title of *Failege*, in Proof of their royal Extraction from *Rosa Failege*, whom they justly claim as the great Ancestor of the Family. And they have exerted themselves as a Posterity worthy of such Progenitors; for they have shewn themselves a valiant and generous Tribe, free and hospitable, and true Patriots, when the Cause of their Country required their Arms; and they were so free of their Blood in its Defence, that the Family in Process of Time was reduced to a small Number; for the Bravery of this illustrious House of *Leinster* exposed them to the greatest Dangers and Difficulties; for they would never fly or retreat, tho' oppressed by superior Strength, but chose rather to sell their Lives dearly upon the Spot. From this Prince *Rosa Failege* descended likewise other noble Families, as the *O Dempsy*, Lords of *Clanmalier*, and *O Dun*, with several others of principal Note, as will be particularly observed when we come to adjust the Pedigrees of the *Milefsians*.

It is certain, that *Fiachadh Baiceada*, tho' a younger Brother to *Rosa Failege*, is placed in many Books of Genealogies, before any other of the nine Sons of *Cathaoir More*, who left Issue behind them; and for this Reason, because the Province of *Leinster* was governed by more Kings of his Posterity than of any of the other Brothers. From him descended the princely Families of *Mac Morough Cavanagh*, in the *Irish* Language *Mac Murchadha Caombanach*, Kings of *Leinster*, of *O Tool*, in *Irish* *O Tuathail*, who were some Time the Monarchs of that Province, of *Byrn*, in *Irish* *O Broin*, who were not only Kings of *Leinster*, but Lords of *Wicklow* for many Generations. From this *Fiachadh* were derived likewise the noble Families of the *Murphys*, in the *Irish* *O Murchudha*; of *Dowling*, in *Irish* *O Dunluing*; of *Ryan*, in *Irish* *O Riain*, and in some Chronicles of *Ireland* it is called *O Maoilrian*; of *Cinsealagh*, of *O Mulduin*, of *O Cormac*, *O Duffy*, and many others.

From *Cairbre*, the Son of *Cuchorb*, who lived four Generations before *Cathaoir More*, were descended the Families of *O Dwyr*, in the *Irish* *O Duibhidir*, who were Kings of *Carbry*, *Coillnemanach*, &c.

From *Conla*, the Son of *Breasal Breac*, who preceded *Cathaoir More* by fourteen Generations, were derived

derived the princely Family of *Fitz Patrick*, in the *Irish* Language *Macgiollaphadrugh*, who were Kings of *Ireland* for many Ages; and from the same noble Stem proceeded the heroick Tribe of *O Braonain* of *Vibhdubach*, who were distinguished by their military Atchievements, and were some of the most renowned Champions of the Times they lived in.

A. D. 125.

*Conn Ceadchathach*, who for his Valour obtained the Title of the Hero of the *hundred Battels*, obtained the Government; he was the Son of *Tuathal Teachtmair*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and wore the Crown twenty Years; but was at length slain by *Tiobraide Tireach*, Son of *Mail*, Son of *Rochruidhe*, King of *Usher*. This Prince was barbarously murdered in the Territory of *Tara*, when he chanced to be alone and unattended by his Guards; the Executioners were fifty Russians, disguised for the Purpose in the Habit of Women, and employed by *Tiobraide Tireach* to fall upon him when Opportunity favoured, and put an End to his Life. The Mother of *Conn Ceadchathach* was *Ughna*, the Daughter of the King of *Denmark*; and he was attacked, and so overpowered by *Modba Nuagat*, King of *Munster*, that he lost half his Dominions, after he had been defeated in ten Battels, and was forced to deliver them into the Possession of the Conqueror.

do mabas  
con ceab  
data Alfe-  
all le tiob-  
naide tife-  
at.

The Mother of the victorious *Modba Nuagat* was *Sioda*, the Daughter of *Floin*, Son of *Fiachradh* of the *Earnaidhe*; and the Reason of his Quarrel with the King of *Ireland* was upon the Account of the *Earnaidhs*, who were descended from the Posterity of *Fiachradh Feamara*, and derived from the princely Stock of *Heremon*. This Family by continual Victories had the better of the Descendants of *Heber Fionn* in *Munster*; so that there were three, who at the same Time raised Pretensions to the Crown of that Province, *Lughaidh Allathach*, *Daire Dornmor* and *Aongus*. When *Modba Nuagat* perceived that the royal House of *Heremon* had Possession of the Government of *Munster*, he did not think it safe to stay in that Province, but removed to *Leinster*, where he had his Education and Support with *Daire Barrach*, the Son of *Cathair More*. There grew an intimate Friendship between these two young Princes; so that *Modba Nuagat* requested of his royal Companion, that he would favour his Right, and supply him with

with sufficient Force to recover the Crown of *Munster*. His Friend complied, and immediately put him at the Head of a stout Body of Troops: *Modha* with this Assistance marches into the Province in a hostile Manner, and halted at *Vibh Liathain*: Here *Aongus* made Head against him with a numerous Army, and a fierce and bloody Battel commenced; but after a sharp Dispute with doubtful Success, the Victory stood for *Modha Nuagat*, who routed the Enemy, and persued them so close, that he drove them out of the Province. This Battel was fought upon a Spot of Ground fortunate to the Conqueror; for in the same Place he engaged in the Battel of *Ard Neimhidh*.

*Aongus*, after the Defeat, fled directly to *Conn Ceadchathach*, the Monarch of *Ireland*, and intreated his Assistance; the King supplied him with a Reinforcement of fifteen thousand Men; with this Army he enters the Province of *Munster*, and, prompted by Indignation and Revenge, he resolved to recover the Crown he had lost, or die upon the Spot. He halted at *Crioch Liathain*, where *Modha Nuagat* was ready to receive him, and offered him Battel. The two Armies engaged with great Bravery, but the Forces of *Modha*, accustomed to Victory, broke through the adverse Troops, and destroyed the greatest Part of them with a terrible Slaughter, and put the rest to a general Rout.

Animated with this Success, *Modha Nuagat* banished the *Earnaidhs* out of the Province of *Munster*; but with this Restriction, that as many as submitted peaceably to his Government, might continue in the Country. It was the Assistance that *Conn Ceadchathach* afforded to *Aongus* that was the Occasion of those dreadful Wars between that King and *Modha Nuagat*; but the *Irish* Monarch was unfortunate in most Engagements, for he lost the Day in ten several Battels. He was defeated in the Battel of *Broisne*, the Battel of *Sampaite*, the Battel of *Greine*, the Battel of *Athlone*, the Battel of *Moigh Crioch*, in which Action *Fiachadh Rioghfhada*, the Son of *Feidhlimidh Reachmar*, was slain, the Battel of *Asail*, the Battel of *Shabb Mofatgh*, the Battel of *Suamairgh*, the Battel of *Gabhran*, and the Battel of *Vsingh*. And these Contests and Dissentions continued between the two Princes, till *Modha Nuagat*, by a constant Course of Success, had got Possession of one half of the Kingdom; so that his Territories extended from *Galway* and

and *Dublin*, and *Eiskir Ready* was the Bounds of his Government. From this Conquest the *Southern* Part of the Kingdom is known to this Day by the Name of *Leath Modha* or *Modha's Half*, who was the victorious Prince we are now speaking of, and was likewise distinguished by the Name of *Eogan More*. The *Northern* Part of the Island is called to this Time by the Distinction of *Leath Cuinn* or *Conn's Half*, from this *Conn Ceadcharbach*, King of Ireland.

*Modha Nuagat* had another Opportunity of enlarging his Conquests, that could not fail of Success, and prevailing upon the Affections of the People; for it happen'd that seven Years before, an eminent *Druid*, whom he retained in his Family, discover'd by his Art that there should be a most dreadful *Famine* throughout the Island, and so great a Scarcity of Provision and the Fruits of the Earth, that the Inhabitants would be compell'd to feed upon one another's Fleth to preserve their Lives; and therefore to obviate these Calamities, he advis'd him to support himself and his Retinue, by feeding upon Fish and Fowl, of which at that Time there was great Plenty in all Parts of the Kingdom; by this means he had the Advantage of saving all the Corn, and other Fruits, for a Subsistence, when that Desolation and Misery should fall upon the Land; and as a farther Provision against the approaching Famine, he perswaded him to build Store-houses and to buy in all the Corn of the Country, and to lay out all the Revenue of his Province that could be spared from other Uses in the Purchase. *Modha Nuagat* was so convinc'd of the Integrity of the *Druid*, that he gave Belief to the Prediction, and for the space of seven Years, he and his Subjects lived upon Fish and Fowl, and secured the Corn and other Neecessaries of Life in Granaries and proper Places, and sent Factors all over the Kingdom to buy up all the Provision that was expos'd to Sale as far as the whole Income of his Province would extend. At the Time foretold, there was a miserable Scarcity throughout the whole Island, and the People were reduced to the most desperate Extremities; but when they were informed of the provident Care of the Prince of *Munster*, who had laid in great Quantities of Corn and other Neecessaries, they applied to him in great Numbers, and relying upon his Mercy and Humanity,

Humanity, intreated him to support them with Bread, and save the Lives of the whole Kingdom. *Modha* made use of this Advantage, and tho' he resolv'd to relieve the Miseries of the People, yet he insist'd upon an Acknowledgment as an Equivalent, and promis'd to assist them with Corn in this Distress, upon Condition they would submit to a constant Tribute, and pay a certain Tax to the Crown of *Munster*. These Terms were joyfully accepted by the starv'd Petitioners; and so the Granaries and Store-houses were opened, and Necessaries were distributed, but with a sparing Hand among the People. The Circumstances of this Transaction are confirm'd by the concurring Testimony of an authentick Poem that begins thus, *Eogan More sa mor a Raith*; the Lines are these.

*And now alas! came on the deadly Year,  
And dreadful Blasts infected all the Air.  
The Fields no chearful Hopes of Harvest bring,  
Nor tender Buds foretell a coming Spring:  
Nor bladed Grass, nor bearded Corn succeed,  
But Scales of Scurf and Putrefaction breed;  
And Men, and Beasts, and Fowls with Hunger pin'd,  
And Trees and Plants in one Destruction join'd.  
The scattered Vulgar search around the Fields,  
And pluck whate'er the wither'd Herbage yields.  
Famish'd with Want, they Wilds and Desarts tread,  
And fainting wander for their needful Bread;  
But tir'd at length, unable to sustain  
Afflictive Want, and Hunger's pinching Pain,  
They pray to Modha as a guardian God,  
And blest, with Hands upheld, the Place of his Abode.  
Let fall, they cry, some Pity on our Grief,  
If what we beg be just, and we deserve Relief.  
The Prince, with Pity mov'd, extended wide  
His Granaries, and all their Wants supplied.  
But, as a most deserv'd Reward, commands  
A Tax, and lays a Tribute on their Lands.*

This Prince, *Modha Nuagat*, it must be observed, <sup>certe han-</sup> was known by four different Names: he was called *Eo-* <sup>mana baba</sup> *gan Fidsheathach*, *Eogan Mor*, *Eogan Tairbhloch*, and <sup>7c. Eogan mor</sup> *Modha Nuagat*, as an ancient Poet has given us to understand in this Manner.



*The Prince of Munster is known in History  
By four most noble Titles, Eogan More,  
Eogan Fidhfeathach, Eogan Taithlioch,  
And Modha Nuagat.*

To understand the true Occasion why this Prince was distinguished by these several Appellations, the curious may consult the ancient Treatise, called the *Etymology of Names*, which will give him Satisfaction concerning the Derivation of them. *Eogan More* was the Son of *Modha Neid*, and was married to *Beara*, the Daughter of *Heber More*, Son of *Miodbna*, King of *Castile* in the Kingdom of *Spain*. By this *Spanish* Princess he had one Son and two Daughters; the Name of his Son was *Oilioll Olum*, the eldest Daughter was called *Sgoithniamb*, and the youngest *Coinioll*. This is confirmed by a Poet of great Antiquity in these Verses.

ca pat zac  
dinn da náb  
q eogan  
mon yan co-  
in 2 nmain  
72.

*The Spanish Princess, beautiful Beara,  
Daughter of Heber, the Castilian King,  
Was Mother of the valiant Oilioll Olum  
And of the virtuous Ladies Sgoithneamh  
And Coinioll.*

*Modha Nuagat*, the King of *Munster*, was at length treacherously slain by *Conn Ceadchathach*, the Monarch of *Ireland*, who (as some Chronicles assert) killed him in his Bed in the Morning of the Day when they intended to fight the Battel of *Maigh Leane*. The Reason why this King *Conn* was surnamed the Hero of a hundred Battels, was, because he subdued the Provincialists, and triumphed over them in so many Engagements; to confirm this, we have the Testimony of the following Lines.

*The warlike Conn came off with Victory  
In Munster, and an hundred Battels won;  
So many Times with Laurels was he crown'd,  
And triumphed over Ulster, and in Leinster  
He fought in sixty Battels with Success.*

But the good Fortune of this Prince at last forsook him, and he was slain by *Tiobraide Treach*, as before mentioned.

*Conaire* was the succeeding Monarch; he was the Son of *Modha Lamba*, Son of *Luigheach Allathach*, Son of *Cairbre Cromcinn*, Son of *Daire Dornmor*; Son of *Cairbre Fionnmor*, Son of *Conaire More*, Son of *Eiderfgeoil*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and governed the Kingdom seven Years; he was killed by *Neimhidh*, the Son of *Sruibhchin*; the Mother of this Prince was *Eithne*, the Daughter of *Lughaidh*, Son of *Daire*. From this *Conaire*, King of Ireland, descended the *Dailriads* in Scotland, *Baisnagh* from *Leim Congculionn*, as the old Poet observes in this Manner.

*The noble Tribe of the Dailriads  
Descended from th' illustrious Conaire.  
Musgraidh proceeded from the royal Stock  
Of the same Monarch; and the famed Baisnigh  
From great Congculionn's Loins their Lineage drew.*

*Art Aonshir* the Melancholy sat next in the Throne of Ireland; he was the Son of *Conn Ceadchaibach*, Son of *Feidlimidh Reachtmur*, a Prince of the Posterity of *Heremon*, and reign'd thirty Years. His Queen was *Meidhbhb Leathdearg*, the Daughter of *Canann Cualann*, and from this Princess *Rath Meidhbhe*, near *Tara* obtain'd its Name. The Occasion of this Monarch's being distinguish'd by the Title of *Art Aonshir*, was, because he was the sole Survivor of his two Brothers, who were unfortunately kill'd by *Eochaidh Fionn*, the Brother to *Conn*, who was the Hero of the hundred Battels; the Names of these young Princes were *Conla* and *Crionna*, and the Brothers of *Conn*, who slew them, were called *Eochaidh Fionn*, and *Fiachadh Suidhe*. This Transaction is confirm'd by the Testimony of an ancient Poet, whose Authority was never yet question'd, in these Lines:

*Eochaidh Fionn and Fiachadh Suidhe  
Brothers of Conn the Hero of the Island;  
Destroyed the Princes Conla and Crionna,  
Brothers of Art, at whose unhappy Fate  
He grieved, and with continued Sorrow pind,  
And so was called the melancholy Art.*

*Conn*

*Conn*, the Monarch of *Ireland*, had six Children, the two Sons, who were killed, as before mentioned, and *Art*, who succeeded him in the Government; and three Daughters, whose Names were *Maoín*, *Sadhbh*, and *Sarah*, as an old Poet gives us to understand in these Verses.

*Six Children from the royal Loins of Conn  
Descended; three Brothers, worthy of a Crown  
Conla, Crionna and melancholy Art;  
Three Daughters, beautiful and virtuous,  
Maoín, Sadhbh and Sarah.*

The Princes *Conla* and *Crionna* were slain by their Uncle, their Father's Brother; the Princess *Sarah* was married to *Conaire*, the Daughter of the Son of *Modba Lambadh*, by whom she had three Sons, called the three *Cairbres*, their Names were *Cairbre Rioghsbada*, *Cairbre Baschaoin*, and *Cairbre Muisc*. The Posterity of *Cairbre Rioghsbada*, the eldest of the Brothers, removed into *Scotland*, and are distinguished in that Country by the Name of the *Dailriadas*. One of the Descendents of this Prince, who was called *Eochaidh Munrambar*, had two Sons, their Names were *Earcha* and *Eolchu*; from the eldest of these Brothers were derived the *Dailriadas* of *Scotland*, from the youngest sprang in a lineal Descendant the *Dailriadas* that settled in the Province of *Ulster*, and were called *Rutach*. The Princess *Sadhbh*, another Daughter of *Conn* was married to *Macniadh*, the Son of *Lughdbeach*, derived from the Posterity of *Ith*, the Son of *Breogan*, by whom she had a Son, whose Name was *Lughaidh*, and sometimes he was distinguished by the Title of *Mac Conn*. Her Husband *Macniadh* died, but she was soon married to *Oilioll Olum*, by whom she had nine Sons; seven of these young Princes were unfortunately kill'd in the Battel of *Magh Muchruime*, as *Oilioll Olum* has confirmed in a Poem composed by himself.

*dailriada  
Alban 7 da  
ilriada u-  
las anro.*

*The tender Father for his Sons laments;  
Seven Princes, th' only Hopes of my old Age,  
Fell in one Day; Eogan Dubmerchon, Modchorb,  
Lughaidh, Eochaidh, and Diothorba.*

The two Brothers that escaped the Battel of *Magh Muchruime*, were called *Cormac Cas* and *Cian*: And tho' *Oilioll Olum* had nineteen Sons in the whole, nine by the Daughter of *Conn*, and ten by other Women, yet but three of them left any Posterity; as we have sufficient Reason to believe from the Testimony of an ancient Poet in this Manner,

*Nineteen young Heroes were the valiant Sons  
Of Oilioll Olum, a renowned Prince;  
But, by untimely Fate destroyed, sixteen  
Childless; three alone were blest'd with Issue  
And to Posterity delivered down  
The princely Line of the Hiberian Race.*

The Sons of *Oilioll Olum*, who had Children, he had by his Queen *Sadhbh*, the Daughter of *Conn*, the Monarch of *Ireland*: The eldest of the three Brothers was called *Eogan More*, and he fell in the Battel of *Magh Muchruime* by the victorious Sword of a *Welsh* Hero, *Beime Briot*, who was Son to the King of *Wales*. This Prince *Eogan More* left a Son behind him called *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, from whom descended all the illustrious Families of the *Clancarthy Mores*, the *Mac Carthy's*, *O Sullivan's*, and *O Bryens*, with all the spreading Branches of those noble Tribes, who have appeared very glorious in the *Irish* Nation. The Mother of this *Fiachadh Muilleathan* was *Muncha*, the Daughter of *Dil da Chreaga*, and he was born at *Ath Uisíoll*, that lies upon the River *Suir*. He was distinguished by the Title of *Fiachadh Fear da Liach*, by Reason of the sorrowful News which was brought; for the Word *Fiach* in the *Irish* Language signifies *News*: The melancholy Account that was brought, was the Death of his Father *Eogan More* at the Battel of *Magh Muchruime*, soon after he was conceived, and before he was born, and the painful Death of his Mother, who died in Travail with him: When he came to Years of Understanding, he was made acquainted with the unhappy Fate of both his Parents, which gave Occasion to his Name, and he was afterwards called *Fiachadh Fear da Liach*, upon the Account of that Sorrow and Grief he conceived at the Loss of them. *Oilioll Olum* composed a Poem upon the celebrated Battel of *Magh Muchruime*,

N n n

where

where this Transaction is recorded in an elegant and pathetick Manner; the Verses are these.

*The Prince, with more than common Grief oppress'd,  
Heard the strange Death, and Sorrow swell'd his Breast;  
His Father, brave in Arms, untimely slain,  
His Mother, torn asunder, dy'd with Pain  
In Childbirth. Thus o'ercome with sad Surprise,  
A Stream of fruitless Tears ran trickling from his Eyes.*

comle an  
draoidh  
gean 7c.

ceid 2huna  
ingean dil  
da chreaga  
na Srege 3  
lan 2ta  
ran 7c 7c.

This young Prince was likewise called *Fiachadh Muilleathan*; what gave Occasion to his Name was this: His Mother's Father, it seems, was indued with a prophetick Skill, and among others of his Predictions, he foretold to his Daughter, that if she could forbear the Delivery (for she was then in Travail) for the Space of four and twenty Hours, the Child that should be born should be advanced to great Honour, and one Day fill the Throne of *Ireland*, but if he came into the World immediately, he should never be promoted to a Crown; but he should prove an eminent *Druid*, and be of principal Note for his Divinations. The Mother, tho' in the utmost Pain, resolved, if possible, to prevent the Birth; for it was her Ambition she designed to gratifie, tho' it cost her her Life; for she told her Father she would take Care the Child should not be born within the Time, unless it forc'd a Way thro' the Sides of her Belly; and accordingly, as an Expedient, she ran instantly into a Ford of the River *Suire*, which ran near her Father's House, and wading into a proper Depth, she sat for the Space of twenty four Hours in the cold Water upon a Stone, which effectually prevented her Delivery. Upon her Return home the Child was born, but as the just Reward of her Pride, she fainted and expired. This Transaction gave a Name to the Infant who was called *Fiachadh Muilleathan*; for the Crown of his Head was, by his Mother's sitting upon the Stone, pressed in and made flat, and in Allusion he was known by the Title of *Muilleathan*, which Word in the *Irish* Language signifies *flat-headed*.

The second Son of *Oilioll Olum* was *Cormac Cas*, from whom in a lineal Descent are derived the renowned Tribe of the *Dailgeais*, or the *O Bryens*, *Mac Mahons*, the *Macnemara's*, otherwise called *Sioll Aodb*, with many other Branches of noble and heroick Blood, as shall be par-



ticularly observed in its proper Place. To this Son *Cormac Cas*, *Oilioll Olum* demised the perpetual Government of the Province of *Munster* after his Decease: But when he had Intelligencé that *Fiachadh Muilleathan* was born, he thought proper to alter his Will, and in this Manner settled the Succession; that his Son *Cormac Cas* after his Death should wear the Crown of *Munster* during his natural Life, and then it would devolve to *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, the Son of *Eogan Mote*: The Sovereignty then was to return into the Family of *Cormac Cas*, and so the Province was to be governed alternately by the Heirs of these two illustrious Tribes, without Quarrels or Disputes; and the Will of *Oilioll Olum* was held in that Veneration by his Posterity, that there were no Contests between the two Families for the Crown of *Munster* for many Ages.

The third Son of *Oilioll Olum* that left Issue behind him was *Ciann*, from which Prince descended the most noble Family of *O Carrol*, who were Kings of *Ely* for many Generations; from him likewise derived *O'Meachair*, *O Hara*, *O Gara*, and *O Connor Ciannachia*.

It must be observed, that *Oilioll Olum* was the first King that reigned in *Munster* of the royal Line of *Heber Fionn*, and he begins the List of those Princes in the royal Tables, and the publick Records of the Kingdom; of such, I mean, who presided over the two Divisions of that Province; for *Oilioll Olum* was in Possession of the Government before he had expelled *Mac Con*, (*Mac Con*, who descended from the Posterity of *Dairine*, of the noble Line of *Lugbaidh*, the Son of *Ith*, Son of *Breogan*,) and was a Branch of the Family of *Deirgtheine*, whose great Ancestor was *Heber Fionn*. When the Tribe of *Dairine* had the Command in the Province of *Munster*, the Descendents of *Deirgtheine* were admitted into the principal Offices of the State, and were the established Judges of the Country; and when the Posterity of *Deirgtheine* obtained the Government, the Family of *Dairine* were invested with a great Share of Authority; they presided in the publick Courts, and administered Justice to the Subjects; and this Succession in the Posts of Honour and Trust continued till *Mac Con* was detected of Corruption in pronouncing Judgment; for which scandalous Practice he was degraded by *Oilioll Olum*, who, as a just Punishment, banished him the Island.

~ In this State of Exile *Mac Con* continued for some Time, but being a Person of a factious and turbulent Disposition, he began to think himself injur'd, and resolv'd upon Revenge, and by Violence to return into his Country against the exprefs Sentence of the King. To accomplish his Design, he projected an open Invasion; but having no Forces to support him, he applied himself to *Beime Briot*, Son to the King of *Wales*, who promised to assist him with a competent Number of Troops, and fix him in the Possession of his Authority; and the more easily to ingage this young Prince, the crafty Conspirator assured him he had a considerable Party in the Island, who resented the Injustice of his Sentence, and were ready to declare in his Favour as soon as he arrived upon the Coasts.

Confiding in the Integrity of *Mac Con*, the Prince of *Wales* raised a numerous Army, and enlisted into his Service Men of all Nations that offered to follow him in the Expedition; and when he had provided a sufficient Number of Transports, he weighed Anchor, and landed upon the *Irish* Shore. When they arrived they held a Council of War, where it was resolv'd to dispatch a Herald to the melancholy *Art*, who was then Monarch of the Island, and require him to resign the Government or to give them Battel, and decide the Contest with the Sword. The Challenge was a Surprise to the King, but he accepted the Summons, and sent Orders to the General of his Militia to attend upon him with his trained Bands; for he had raised an Army to oppose the insolent Invaders, which if it should give Way, and offer to fly, he was ordered to assist with his fresh Body, and by that Means recover the Fortune of the Day. But the perfidious *Fionn* had been bought off from the Service of the King, and had sold his Loyalty to *Mac Con* for a sufficient Bribe, which engaged him to get out of the Way, and carry himself as a Neuter in the Dispute.

Mac con do  
breaba pin  
mae cumail  
anso 7c.

The King of *Ireland* soon perceived the Treachery of his General, who not only refused to attend upon him in his own Person, but seduced the principal Officers of the *Militia*, and engaged them to be absent, and not appear in the Fight: But these Discouragements did not prevent the King from making Head against the Enemy; and accordingly, after he had fixed a solemn Curse upon the Traytor, he marched with the Forces

he

he had against *Mac Con*, who had drawn out his Army, and was ready to receive him: The *Irish* Troops were supported by the Assistance of nineteen Sons of *Oilioll Olum*, who brought with them a considerable Body; and the Army of the Invaders consisted chiefly of Foreigners of all Nations, but were well disciplin'd by the Care and Vigilance of *Beime Briot*, the Prince of *Wales*, who was an accomplished General, of a robust Constitution of Body, and for his Courage and Conduct in Arms, was one of the most renowned Heroes of the Age. The Fight began with great Fury on both Sides, and Victory was in Suspense for some Hours; but the King of *Ireland*, for Want of his *Militia*, who were resolute and hardy Soldiers, was forced to give Way to the superior Force of the foreign Troops, who followed their Blow, and put the *Irish* to a general Rout. In this Action, called the Battel of *Magh Muchruime*, was *Art*, the Monarch of *Ireland*; and the Son of *Con*, the Hero of the hundred Battels, unfortunately slain by *Lughaidh Laga*, the Brother of *Oilioll Olum*, who took Part with the Invaders, and turned the Fortune of the Day. The Death of the King so dispirited his Troops, that they fled instantly, and were pursued with great Slaughter by the Conquerors, who in that Engagement destroyed the bravest Soldiers of the Kingdom; for they gave no Quarter, but put all to the Sword. Among the slain were seven of the Sons of *Oilioll Olum*, that he had by *Saidbbb*, the Sister of *Art*, the King of *Ireland*, and Daughter of *Conn*, the renowned Hero of the hundred Battels.

213ba 21inc  
don fin 21nd  
Rog 21inc  
anro 7c.

It must be observed in this Place, that *Oilioll Olum* was properly called *Aongus*, but his Name was changed upon this Occasion. It happened that *Oilioll Olum*, being an amorous Prince, offered Violence to a young Lady, whose Name was *Aine*, the Daughter of *Ogamuill*: The Lady, resenting this Injury, resolved to revenge herself upon the Ravisher, and finding an Opportunity when she was in Bed with him, she observed he was asleep, and bit off Part of his Ear: By this Action she thought she had fixed a Badge of Infamy upon *Oilioll* for the Abuse he had offered her, and in some Measure revenged the Death of her Father, whom he slew. This Transaction, as some Chronicles assert, was the Cause of changing his Name.

buan 21la-  
dise 20oil-  
oll olum le  
haine 21nd-  
ogrit a  
heignite 21-  
ro 7c.



But there are Records of some Authority that give another Account of this Matter, and relate that he received the Title of *Oilioll Olum*, from the Words *Oil Oll*, which, in the *Irish* Language, signifies *Shame* or *Reproach*. This Prince, it seems, was distinguished by three remarkable Blemishes, which were esteemed a great Disgrace to him, and attended upon him to his Grave. He was deformed, as was observed before, by the Loss of the greatest Part of his Ear, his Teeth were exceeding black and his Breath was very offensive, and had a nauseous Smell. These Imperfections beset him upon the Account of the Rape he committed upon the young Lady, who had no sooner bit his Ear, but he seized a Spear or Partisan that was placed near him, and thrusting it thro' her Body, he fixed her to the Ground. The Head of the Spear struck against a Stone, and, by the Force of the Blow, the Point of it was bent; *Oilioll* having drawn the Weapon out of the Body, put the Point of the Spear into his Mouth with a Design to streighten it with his Teeth; but the Metal being invenom'd with strong Poison, changed the Colour of his Teeth into black, and had that Effect upon his Breath, that it afterwards had a nauseous Smell not to be endured: These were the three Blemishes which gave the Name of *Oilioll Olum* to this Prince, who was the less to be excused, because he had Warning long before by a Prediction concerning this *Spear*, which foretold he should be afflicted with three great Misfortunes if he suffered the Point of that *Spear* to touch a *Stone*, or if he applied it to his *Teeth*, or attempted with it to kill a *Woman*; but the Prophecy found no Credit with *Oilioll Olum*; for which Reason he deservedly fell under these Calamities, which occasioned the Change of his Name, and which he carried with him to his Grave.

ṁṁṁ Gearas  
ṁṁṁ oilrolla  
olun anyo.

A. D. 182. *Lughaidh*, who had the Surname of *Mac Con*, by his Victory got Possession of the Government; he was the Son of *Macniadh*, Son of *Luighdheach*, Son of *Daire*, Son of *Firuilne*, Son of *Eudbuilg*, Son of *Daire*, Son of *Siothbuilg*, Son of *Firuilne*, Son of *Deagambdach*, Son of *Deagha Dearg*, Son of *Deirgtheime*, Son of *Niagatt Airgtheach*, Son of *Luchttaire*, Son of *Logha Feidhlioch*, Son of *Ereamboin*, Son of *Eadamhuia*, Son of *Gosamhuin*, Son of *Sim*, Son of *Maitbin*, Son of *Logha*, Son of *Eadamhuin*, Son of *Mail*, Son

of *Lughaidh*, Son of *Ith*, Son of *Breogan*, and filled the Throne of Ireland thirty Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Sadkbbh*, the Daughter of *Conn*, as before mentioned. He obtained the Name of *Mac Con* from a Greyhound that was called *Ealor Dearg*; that belonged to *Oilioll Olum*. This King in his Infancy was educated in the Court of *Oilioll Olum*, and being a Child of a very weak and tender Constitution, he was very fretful and difficult to be pleased: But when he could not be pacified by other Methods, those who had the Care of him procured a young Greyhound for him to play with, which, by its Fondness and diverting Postures, so amused the Child, that he conceived a wonderful Kindness for the Dog, and was never easy or contented without him; and, from this playing with the Greyhound, he was known by the Name of *Mac Con*, but he was properly called *Lughaidh*. The Victory he obtained in the Battle of *Magh Muebruime* put him in Possession of the Kingdom; for within the Compass of a Week, by pursuing his Success, he fixed himself in the Sovereignty of the whole Island, and governed it securely thirty Years, as is particularly mentioned in the following Verses, transcribed from a very ancient Poem, which begins in this Manner, *Cnocha Cnoc os Cionn Liffe*.

*Within seven Days the fortunate Lughaidh  
Obtained the Scepter of the Western Isle,  
And reign'd in Honour and Prosperity  
For thirty Years, as ancient Records tell;  
But he was at last slain by Treachery,  
Sitting in State in the Assembly.*

It must be observed, that this *Mac Con*, the Irish Monarch we are speaking of, was not a Descendent from the Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, as he is expressly mention'd to be in the Poem that begins with these Words, *Conaire Caomh Chaomhuin chuim*, but was derived from the Family of *Lughaidh*, the Son of *Ith*, Son of *Breogan*. *Ith* and *Milesius* the King of Spain, who was otherwise called *Gollamb*, were Brother's Children; and notwithstanding that *Lughaidh*, the Son of *Ith*, and his Posterity, were descended from *Gadelas* in a lineal Succession, yet they are not to be reckoned of the Line of *Milesius*, but were Cousin Germans to that Family; and this Account is confirmed by the Testimony of a Poet of great Credit and Antiquity, who, speaking of the

three



three renowned Tribes that were derived from the Posterity of *Lughaidh*, the Son of *Ith*, has these Verses.

flouice do  
flouf lugh  
mae ich an-  
ro.

*Three Princes, famous in the Irish Annals,  
O Cobhthaig generous and hospitable;  
O Floin Arda invincible and brave;  
And the most valiant Heiderfgeoil,  
Were not descended from the royal Line  
Of great Milesius.*

From *Lughaidh*, the Son of *Ith*, the following Surnames deduce their Original, *O Laoghaire* in the English Language called *O Laoery*, or *Lery*, *O Baire* of *Aronn* in *Carbry*, *Magh Flanchy* of *Darthruidhe*, *Magh Amalgadh* of *Callruidhe*, *O Curnyn*, and *Mac Aillin* in the Kingdom of *Scotland*.

tau niof do  
flouf ich  
anro.

This *Mac Con*, it must be understood, was the third Monarch of *Ireland*, who was of the royal Line of *Ith*; the first Monarch of that Family was *Eochaidh Eadgothach*, the Son of *Daire*, who possessed the Government of the Island four Years, and fell by the Sword of *Cearmna*, the Son of *Eibhric*, the Son of *Ir*. The second of that Line was *Eochaidh Apthach*, who sat upon the Throne one Year, and was slain by *Fionn*, the Son of *Bratha*. The third, descended from this illustrious House, was this *Mac Con*, as appears evidently by the Authority of an ancient Poet, who has transmitted to us the following Verses.

*From the most noble Race of Ith descended  
Three Princes, who the Irish Scepter sway'd.  
Eochaidh Eadgothach, Eochaidh Apthach,  
And the renowned Lughaidh, who reveng'd  
The cruel Death of their great Ancestor.*

*Comain Eigis* the Son of *Fearcio* form'd a Conspiracy by the Persuasion of *Cormac*, the Son of *Art* the Melancholy, against *Maccon*, and slew him with a remarkable Spear, known in the Irish Language by the Name of *Ringde*. This treacherous Act was committed at *Feimbin* in *Leinster*, as the King was returning from *Munster*. The unfortunate Journey of the King into that Province, was occasioned by the Prediction of his *Druid*, who foretold that he should not wear the Crown of *Ireland* for half a Year, if he remov'd the Place of his Residence

dence from the royal House of *Tara*. Influenc'd by this Prophecy he came to *Munster*, to solicit the Friendship and Assistance of his Relations in the Province, who descended from *Oilioll Olum*; but this Family, instead of favouring his Request, resolved to destroy him; for they could not forget the Revenge they owed him for the Death of *Eogan More* and his Brothers, whom he slew in the Battel of *Magh Muchruime*. *Mac Con* upon this Repulse, returned back to *Leinster*, where he was treacherously kill'd in the Manner before mentioned: He lost his Life in the Field, call'd in the *Irish* Language *Gort an oir*, which signifies the *Golden Field*, at *Magh Feimhin*, near *Dearg Rath*, that lies on the North Side of *Ath na Garbat*, or the *Chariot's Ford*. The Place is known to this Day by the Name of *Gort an oir*, or the *Golden Field*, which Title it received, because *Mac Con*, when he was slain, was distributing his Liberality, and rewarding the Poets and principal Artists of the Kingdom with large Sums of Gold; when the Murtherer came behind him undiscovered as he was standing near a large Rock, and most barbarously thrust him thro' with a *Spear*.

*Feargus*, who was distinguished by the Name of *A. D. 212.* the *Black Teeth*, was the succeeding Monarch; he was the Son of *Fionnachada*, Son of *Eogamhuin*, Son of *Fia-thach*, Son of *Finn*, Son of *Daire*, Son of *Diubach*, Son of *Deisin*, Son of *Eochaidh*, Son of *Sim*, Son of *Rosin*, Son of *Trein*, Son of *Rothrein*, Son of *Airiondil*, Son of *Maine*, Son of *Forga*, Son of *Feardach*, Son of *Oiliollaran*, Son of *Fiach Fearmara*, Son of *Aongus Tuirmbeach*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and sat upon the Throne one Year. It was in the Reign of this Prince, that the Inhabitants of *Ulster* expelled *Cormac* by Force out of that Province into *Conacht*; notwithstanding he made an Entertainment at *Magh Breag*, and feasted them plentifully. It was at this Feast that the King of *Ulster* commanded one of his Servants to set Fire on *Cormac's* Beard with a lighted Candle, which was accordingly done, and then he was banished the Province. The three principal Persons concern'd in the Disgrace and Exile of this Nobleman, were the three *Feargus's*, the Sons of *Fionnachada*, Son of *Eogamhuin*; their Names were *Feargus*, who was surnamed *Dubhdheadach* or the *Black Teeth*; the second Brother was called *Feargus*, surnamed

firmamed *Caisfhiachlach*, which signifies the *Crooked Teeth*, and the youngest was *Feargus*, firmamed *Folheab-hair* or *Long-hair*.

teideop-  
mae 50-  
cde5 mae  
cein 45 13-  
do eabgta  
am.

*Cormac* inflamed with Resentment at this ungenerous Usage, applied for Protection to *Thady*, the Son of *Ceinn*, Son of *Oislioll Olum*, who was a Person of Authority and of great Interest in the Country of *Ely*. When he arrived he represented his Misfortunes and the Indignities he had received with so moving an Address, that the generous *Thady* promised to support him against his Oppressors, and restore him to his just Rights if he would engage to settle a Tract of Land upon him, after he had triumphed over his Enemies. *Cormac* complied joyfully with the Conditions, and gave him Security that he should be put into Possession of as much Land as he could surround with his Chariot upon the Day of Battle, when the Fight was over, and he had obtained a complete Victory over the three Brothers. *Thady*, relying upon his Honour and Integrity, resolved to espouse his Cause with all imaginable Vigor; and to intimidate his Enemies, he told *Cormac* that he knew where the invincible Hero *Lughaid Laga* lay concealed, and assured him that if he could prevail upon that bold Champion to appear at the Head of his Troops, and present himself in the Front of the Battle, the Day would be his own; and as an undisputed Sign of Success, the Heads of the three *Feargus's*, he made no Question, would be cut off by this intrepid Warrior, and laid at his Feet: He farther informed him that this stout Soldier had retired, and lived an obscure Life at *Atharla* near *Sliabh Grott*, where he would be sure to find him.

lugaib la-  
5d, 7 eop-  
mas anyo.

Encouraged by these Assurances, *Cormac* went instantly to *Atharla*, and upon a strict Search he found the brave *Lughaidh* in a poor despicable Cottage, lying along upon the Ground with his Face upwards: When he perceived him in that Posture, he pricked him gently with the End of his Lance; upon which the old Soldier demanded with a stern Countenance who it was that presumed to disturb him in so insolent a Manner. *Cormac* replied mildly, and told him his Name; and *Lughaidh* answered that if he had been pleased, he might justly have taken away his Life in Revenge for the Death of his Father *Art the Melancholy*, who fell by his Hand; *Cormac* told him he thought he was obliged to make him a suitable Re-

compence for that Action: That I promise you, says *Lughaidh*, for I will make you a Present of a King's Head in the Time of Battell. By this Time *Cormac* had made known his Business, and after he had received his Word, that he would assist him to the utmost of his Life, and give him Revenge over his Enemies, they set forwards together towards *Ely*, where *Thady*, the Son of *Ceinn* kept his Residence.

By this Time *Thady* had raised a numerous Army, with a Design to destroy the Province of *Usher* with Fire and Sword; and he was the more easily induced to engage in this Expedition, because *Feargus Dubhdach* or the *Black Teeth* Prince, who was the elder Brother, had some Time before slain the Father of *Thady* in the Battel of *Samhna*. This resolute Army marched to *Brugh mac Anais* and *Criona Chin Comar*, where the Brothers were ready to receive them with the Forces they had raised, and resolved to engage at all Adventures. In this Place was the memorable Battel of *Criona* fought between *Cormac* and the three *Feargus's*; but *Thady* would not permit *Cormac* to enter into the Fight, but persuaded him to be Spectator of the Action upon the Top of a Hill near the Field, where the Battel was fought, and expect the Event.

The Sign was given, and both Armies engaged with signal Courage, and the Victory was undetermined for some Hours; but the valiant *Lughaidh* resolved to turn the Fortune of the Day, and rushing into the hottest of the Action, he made his Way thro' Heaps of slain, till he came to *Feargus Foltleabbhair*, or the *Long-haired*, whom he fell upon with desperate Fury, and cut off his Head; he retired with the Spoil of his Enemy in his Hand, and coming to the Place where *Cormac* was supposed to be, he advanced up to him; and threw the Head of this *Feargus* at his Feet.

It seems that *Cormac*, apprehensive of some Danger from the Fury and outrageous Passion of *Lughaidh*, who in the Heat of the Battel, when his Blood was in a Ferment, would divert himself with the Slaughter of his Friends and Enemies without Distinction, had before the Engagement changed his Habit with one of his Servants, whose Name was *Deilion Druth*. *Lughaidh* therefore brought the Head of his Enemy, and throwing it at the Feet of *Cormac*, as he imagined, demanded whether that was the Head of *Feargus*, King of Ireland. The Servant, assuming

nion baghi-  
 ontaoib le  
 eornde lu-  
 gais laga  
 an do eir-  
 geot eor-  
 fad eata.

suming an Air of State to himself, answered him that it was not: The Champion immediately forced his Way into the hottest of the Battel, and dealing his Blows terribly about him, he met with *Feargus Chaisfhiacloch*, or the *crooked Teeth*, and rushed upon him with that Violence, that he slew him without much Resistance, and likewise cut off his Head. With this Trophy he returned to the supposed *Cormac*, and shewing him the Face, asked him whether that was not the Head of the King of *Ulster*: The disguised Servant replied it was not his, but the Head of his Brother. Enraged with these Disappointments he resolved to accomplish his Purpose, and with dreadful Slaughter of the Enemy, he made his Way to the King, whom he engaged with that Fury, that he slew him before he could be relieved, and brought his Head away with him in Triumph. He came joyfully to the supposed *Cormac*, and demanded whether that was not the Head of *Feargus Duibhidheadach*, King of *Ulster*; the Servant, when he had examined the Face, answered, it was: The Victor, proud of his Conquest, threw the Head with his whole Force at the Servant, who appeared in the Habit of his Master, and the Blow was so violent, that he fell dead at his Feet. This happy Stratagem preserved the Life of *Cormac*; for this *Lugbaidh* was so untractable and fierce, that in his Fury he delighted in Bloodshed; and were it not for the Disguise, *Cormac* must certainly have fallen a Sacrifice to the Passion of this ungovernable and savage Warrior. But *Lugbaidh*, notwithstanding his Reputation and Conduct in Arms, was wounded desperately, and he lost so much Blood, that he fainted away. The Fight was bloody on both Sides, and the Victory was won with great Loss; for the Army of *Ulster*, tho' obliged to give Way, yet rallied seven Times with great Bravery; but the victorious *Thady*, the Son of *Cernn*, pierced with his hardy Troops into the main Body of the Enemy, and after a sharp Contest, put them to the Rout, and drove them out of the Field: He pursued them with great Slaughter from *Criona* to *Glaise an Eara*, near *Drom Ionasgluinn*, as the learned *Flanagan*, whose Authority is indisputable, observes in his Poem in this Manner.





*Fcig Mac Cein, from Rath Cro subdued  
The Army of Ulster, tho' seven Times they rallied,  
And fought; but with superior Force o'erborn  
They fled, and were persued from Rath Criona  
To Ard Cein.*

After the Action was over, the valiant *Thady*, the Son of *Cein*, was obliged by the fore Pain of the Wounds he had received, to be carried out of the Field in his Chariot; for he was miserably galled by three Spears in three several Places of his Body. His Design was to surround as large a Tract of Land as he was able; for this, as was before observed, was to be his Reward if he came off with Victory. Accordingly he commands the Driver of his Chariot to make all possible Expedition; for in the Circuit of the Day he proposed to encompass the Royal Palace of *Tara*, and to drive on as far as *Dublin*. But the Anguish of his Wounds, and a large Effusion of Blood had reduced him to so weak a State, that he perfectly languished; yet intent upon the enlarging his Territories, he called to the Driver, and asked him whether he had yet surrounded the Royal Seat of *Tarah*; the Servant told him he had not; upon which *Thady* was so enraged, that he summon'd all his Strength, and flung his Spear with that Violence, that he transfix'd his Body, and he instantly dropt the Reins and died.

At this Time *Cormac* came to the Place, and perceiving *Thady* in that miserable Condition, by the Pain of his Wounds, called to a Surgeon that was in his Company, and, with the most barbarous Design, commanded him, under a Pretence of dressing one of his Wounds, to convey an *Ear of Barley* into it; into the second Wound he ordered him to inclose a small *black Worm*, and into the third he was to conceal the Point of a *rusty Spear*; and then he was to take Care in the administering of his Medicines, that the Wounds should seemingly be cured, and the Surface of the Skin closed, but they were not to be searched to the Bottom, in order to give him the more Pain, and by Degrees to affect his Life. This I think is the most ungrateful Instance of Cruelty to be met with in the *Irish* History; but *Thady* was a Person of great Courage, and had a brave Army at his Command, which gave *Cormac* a Suspicion that he



would seize upon the Government himself, and therefore he resolved by this inhuman Method to destroy him.

In this deplorable State the unfortunate *Thady* continued for the Space of a Year, and suffered most exquisite Tortures, and his Life was in the utmost Danger. The Condition of this young Prince was lamented by his whole Army, but particularly by *Lughaidh Laga*, who, not suspecting the Treachery of *Cormac*, went to *Munster*, and brought away with him an eminent Surgeon, who had performed wonderful Cures in that Province and thro' the whole Kingdom. When he came to examine into the Wounds of his Patient, he ordered his three Pupils, who attended him, to lance the Skin, and with proper Instruments to probe the Wounds. *Thady* could not bear the Pain occasioned by this Operation, but gave a most pitiful Sigh, and almost fainted under the Hand of the Operator; the Surgeon asked the eldest of his Pupils, who was the most expert in his Profession, what was the Reason the young Prince sighed so lamentably, and in what State the Wound was? He answered, that he was not surpris'd to hear the Patient cry out and lament; for there was an *Ear of Barley* inclosed within the Wound. *Thady* was in the utmost Pain when the second Wound was searched, and, unable to conceal the Torment he suffered, sigh'd again, which made the Surgeon examine into the Reason; and the second Pupil told him that he discovered a living *black Worm*, who gnaw'd upon the Flesh, and occasioned the most acute Torture. The third Wound was now to be examined; and, notwithstanding the compassionate Care of the young Operator, *Thady* could not forbear crying out when the Probe was within the Skin; and upon Inquiry into the Reason, the third Pupil told his Master, that notwithstanding the Surface of the Skin was healed, yet the Flesh was putrefied and corrupted within; for the rusty Point of an old *Spear* lay concealed at the Bottom. The Surgeon surpris'd at so uncommon a Case, gave Orders that a Ploughshare should be heated in the Fire till it was red hot, which being brought to him, he took it in his Hand, and with a cruel and stern Countenance, he ran violently at his Patient as if he would have forced the Iron thro' his Body: *Thady*, surpris'd at this Attempt, started out of his Bed to avoid the Push, and by the Violence of his

Motion

tuſur lu-  
gaib laſa  
liaſaig on  
ſhumainſey  
oo leiſiy  
caſſe.

Motion occasioned by his Fear, his Wounds were forced open, and he fortunately discharged the *Ear of Bannery*, the *black Worm*, and the *rusty Iron*; which had that happy Effect, that the Surgeon, by applying proper Medicines, soon accomplished his Cure; and he was perfectly recovered. *Thady*, after this Act of Treachery, employed his Forces in making Conquests in the Country, and his Arms were attended with that Success, that he subdued large Territories in *Leath Cuinn*, so called because it was Part of the Dominions of *Conn*, who lost half the Island, and was forced to be content with the remaining Part, which was known by this Name *Leath Cuinn*.

The victorious *Thady* was the Son of *Ceinn*, Son of *Oilioll Olum*; from *Tomchaidhe*, the Son of *Conla*; descended the noble Families of the *O Carrols*; from *Fionachta*, the Son of *Conla*, the Tribe of *O Meaghair* were derived; from *Cormac Gaileangach* proceeded the Families of *O Hara*, *O Gara*, *O Cabaise*, and *O Connór Cianachta*. They extended their Conquests over the Country in this Manner. *Gaileanga* was victorious Eastward and Westward, *Cianachta* Southward and Northward. The Posterity of *Heber Fionn* got Possession of other Countries in *Leath Cuinn*, or the Half of *Ireland* under the Sovereignty of *Conn*; this Part of the Island was conquered by the Posterity of *Cochlan*, Son of *Lorcan*, Son of *Dathin*, Son of *Teachuire*, Son of *Sidhe*; Son of *Ambhile*, Son of *Big*, Son of *Aodhan*, Son of *Dealbhaoth*, Son of *Cas*, Son of *Conull Eachluath*, Son of *Luigbherah Mean*, who made Swords-Land of all the Countries from *Limerick* to the Mountain of *Eachtuighe*, Son of *Aongus Tireach*, Son of *Firchuirb*, Son of *Modha Chuirb*, Son of *Cormac Cas*, Son of *Oilioll Olum*. The Territories that fell into the Hands of the Conquerors were these, the seven *Dealbhnas*, that is, *Dealbhna More*, *Dealbhna Beg*, *Dealbhna Eathra*, *Dealbhna Jathar Midhe*, *Dealbhna Siúbe Neanta*, *Dealbhna Cuille Fabhair*, and *Dealbhna Tire da Loch* in *Conacht*. This *Feargus*, the *Irish* Monarch we are treating of, was slain, as before mentioned, by *Lughaidh Laga*, at the Instigation of *Cormac*, the Son of *Art*.

*Cormac Ulfada*, after his Victory, seiz'd upon the Government; he was the Son of *Art*, Son of *Conn*, the renowned Hero of the *hundred Battels*, and he filled the Throne forty Years. The Reason why he was distinguished

winguished by the Name of *Cormac Ulfada*, was upon the Account of his *Beard* and the *Hair* of his Head, which was exceeding long; or he might receive this Title from the Word *Ulfada* or *Ula fad*, which signifies in *English* far or remote from *Ulster*; for we have observed that the Inhabitants of *Ulster* expelled him out of that Province, and he continued in Banishment sixteen Years, or, according to other Computations, he was in Exile ten Years before he returned and became the Monarch of the Island. The Mother of this Prince was *Eachtach*, the Daughter of *Ulcheataigh*, who was by his Profession a *Black-smith*. His Father, who was *Art* the *Melancholy*, the Son of *Conn*, was charm'd with the Beauty of this fair *Plebeian*, who bore him this King *Cormac* not long before the Battel of *Magh Muchruime*. This young Woman he used as a Concubine; for it was a Custom in those Times, that a King's Son might lay his Commands upon any poor Mechanick to deliver up his Daughter, and it was thought honourable to the Family to have a Child admitted within the Embraces of a Prince; but the Father might refuse to give up his Daughter, unless the Prince engaged to endow her with a handsome Portion. By this Means the Mother of *Cormac* became the Concubine of *Art*; for she was not his lawful Queen, his Wife being *Meidhbhb Leathdearg*, the Daughter of *Conan Cualan*, from whom *Rath Meidhbhe*, adjoining to the Palace of *Tara* received its Name. This Concubine *Eachtach*, the Mother of *Cormac*, had a Dream one Night as she was in Bed by *Art* the young Prince, that her Head was chopt off, and that a Tree grew out of her Neck, whose Branches overspread the whole Kingdom of *Ireland*; but the Sea rose to a prodigious Height, and destroyed that Tree, and then retired; from the Root of this Tree sprang out another, but this was blasted by a Westerly Wind, and so it died. When she awaked in the Morning, she was surpris'd at the strange Circumstances of her Dream, and with great Concern related the Particulars of it to *Art*. The Prince being well accomplished in Soothsaying and Divination, interpreted the Dream in this Manner: You are to observe, says he, that the Head of every Woman by the Law of Nature, is the Husband, and me you will certainly lose in the Battel of *Maigh Muchruime*, where I shall be slain: The Tree that you supposed grew out of your Neck, is a Son

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 do ninedo  
 do mact  
 do ninedo  
 mde Aylt  
 aryo 7c.

enao 3 ga  
 oiliat Ayt  
 bair 4507  
 eadep A  
 haryling  
 do eicne.

Son you will bear to me, who, I foretel, shall one Day sit upon the Throne of *Ireland*. The Overflowing of the Sea, by which he was destroyed, implies that this Prince shall die by the sticking of a Bone of a *Sea-fish* in his Throat: The Tree you perceived to spring out of the Root of the former, will be the Son of that King, who likewise shall obtain the Sovereignty of the Kingdom; and the Blast of West Wind, by which it withered and decayed, signifies, that a desperate Battel will be fought between himself and the *Irish Militia*, who will rise in Arms against him, wherein he shall be slain: But the *Fiana Eirionn*, or the *Militia of Ireland*, shall have no Occasion to boast of their Victory obtained by Treason and Rebellion; for they shall never flourish or prosper after that Action, but their Courage shall fail them, and they shall become a Prey to their Enemies. And in Process of Time the Interpretation of this Dream was exactly accomplished in the Persons of *Art*, his Son *Cormac*, and *Cairbre* his Grandson. *Art* was slain in the Battel of *Maigh Muchruime*, *Cormac* was choaked by the Bone of a *Sea-fish*, and *Cairbre Liffeachair* lost his Life in the Battel of *Gabhra*, by the *Fiana Eirionn*, or the standing *Militia* of the Kingdom.

The Wife of *Cormac*, King of *Ireland*, was, if we give Credit to some Chronicles, *Eithne Taobhsada*, the Daughter of *Cathair More*; but that must be a Mistake; and to assert that *Eithne Cathach* was the Mother of *Cairbre Liffeachair* is equally false and impossible to be proved; for there was the Distance of fourscore and eight Years between the Death of *Cathair More*, and the Time that *Cormac* took upon him the Command of *Ireland*, which may be computed in this Manner. *Con* reigned twenty Years; *Conaire More* held the Government seven Years; *Art* was Monarch of the Kingdom thirty Years; *Mac Con* reigned as many, and *Feargus Dubhdheadach* wore the Crown one Year before he was dethroned by *Cormac*, who fixed himself in the Succession: And we have undoubted Authority to believe that *Eithne Ollambdha*, Daughter of *Dunluing*, Son of *Eana Niadb*, was the Mother of *Cairbre Liffeachair*; and the same Testimony informs us, that this Lady was fostered and educated by *Buiciodb Brugbach* an eminent and wealthy Herdsman, who lived in the Province of *Leinster*.

This *Buiciodb Brugbach* was a very hospitable Person, and made it his Practice to have a large Caldron always



boiling upon the Fire, full of Fleſh and Proviſion for the Entertainment of all Paſſengers who came that Way, whom he relieved generously upon free Coſt, without aſking any Queſtions, or demanding of his Gueſts who they were, or to what Part of the Iſland they belonged. This Herdsman abounded in Cattel of all Kinds; he had in his Poſſeſſion at one Time ſeven Herds of Cows, each Herd conſiſting of ſeven Score; he was furniſhed with a noble Stud of fine Horſes, and had Flocks of Sheep not to be numbred. The Gentry of *Leinſter*, with their whole Families and Retinue, would often viſit the Houſe of this Herdsman, and quarter themſelves upon him for a long Time; and when they left him, they would bring away with them a Drove of his Cows, or take his Horſes and Mares, or what elſe they pleaſed, without aſking his Conſent, and never make him any Return. This ungrateful Practice of the Gueſts ſoon impoveriſhed their Benefactor, who was at laſt by this Method ſtrippt of all his Cattel except ſeven Cows and a Bull. With this ſmall remaining Part of his Fortune he removed privately in the Night

from *Dun Buiciodh*, taking along with him his Wife and his Foſter-Child *Eithne*. He travelled with his little Family till he came to a great Wood adjoining to *Ceanannanus* in the Country of *Meath*, which *Cormac* generally made the Place of his Reſidence. In this Solitude *Buiciodh* reſolved to ſpend the reſt of his Days; and as a Defence againſt the Weather, he built a ſmall Tent with Turf and Boughs, where he lodged with his Wife and his fair Charge *Eithne*, who in her ruſtick Dreſs diſcovered a ſingular Beauty, and attended upon her Foſter Parents in the Quality of a Servant.

It happened that *Cormac* upon a Day rode out and diverted himſelf in this Wood; and his Fortune directing him towards this little Hermitage, he ſpied the beautiful *Eithne* very chearfully milking the Cows; ſhe had two Veſſels which ſhe made uſe of to ſeparate the thin Milk from the richer and more ſubſtantial; for when ſhe began to milk a Cow, ſhe diſpoſed of the firſt Part of the Milk into one Veſſel, and the latter Part or the Strippings ſhe poured into the other, which Method ſhe obſerved till ſhe had gone over the whole Number; when ſhe had finiſhed, ſhe took up the Veſſels and carried them home. *Cormac* following her at a Diſtance, admiring her Sagacity and the Niceneſs of

her

ceib buiciodh  
dih eablos  
oibee go eo-  
ill laimhe  
ceandannur  
na 2hioe e  
pein ya bean  
ya dalca.

her Care, and perfectly charmed with the Modesty of her Looks, and the fine Shape, and Beauty of her Person. The young Milkmaid did not stay long in the Cottage, but she came out again with two other Vessels and a Bowl in her Hand, and went to a Spring of Water not far from the Hut; she stooped to the Brink of the Spring, and laded with the Bowl; with the Water that was near the Surface she filled one Vessel, and into the other she poured the Water that was laded from the middle of the Spring, which was cooler and clearer than the rest. When her Vessels were full she returned home; *Cormac* still having his Eye upon her, and surprised at her innocent Behaviour, and her exact Judgment: She soon came out again; for she was obliged to do all the menial Offices of the Family, with a *Reaping Hook* in her Hand, and she had not gone far before she found a Place that abounded with *Rushes*; here she began to work, and when she had cut a Handful of Rushes, she separated those that were long and green from such as were short and withered, and laid them in different Heaps; which Distinction she used till she had as many as she design'd to carry. The amorous *Cormac* observed her at a Distance, and unable to stifle his Passion, he rode up to her. She was somewhat surprised at first to see so genteel a Person in so solitary a Place; but the young Prince by the Courtesy of his Address soon remov'd her Fears, and assured her that she was in no Danger notwithstanding she was alone; for it would be the greatest Barbarity to offer Violence to a Maid of so innocent a Carriage, and whose Beauty deserved to be remov'd from Woods and Wildernesses into the Courts of Princes. After some of these polite Compliments had passed, and the fair *Eithne* was recovered from her Surprise, *Cormac* asked her the Reason of the Distinction she had used in separating the *Milk*, the *Water*, and the *Rushes*, and desired to know who was that happy Person whom she was so careful to oblige, as to preserve the best of every thing by it self, and to distinguish by particular Marks of her Favour and Esteem. The Maid, with a Blush rising in her Face, answered that the Person, upon whom she bestowed the choicest of what she could provide, is one, to whom I owe all the Service of my Life, and to please him is my Duty and the utmost of all my Care. The Prince inquired who this fortunate Person was,

was, she told him it was the unhappy *Buiciodb Brugbach*; what, says *Cormac*, the generous *Herdsmán*, so remarkable for his Hospitality in the Province of *Leinster*? The very same, Sir, replies the Maid; why then, says he, your Name must be *Eithne*, and you are the Daughter of *Dunluing*, and Foster Child to this Herdsman, who has taken Care of you from your Infancy, and bred you up. Yes, Sir, she answered, I perceive you know my Family and the Circumstances of my Fortune: I do, fair Maid, says he, and I am so charmed with your Modesty and the Beauty of your Person, that I scorn to make any unbecoming Attempts upon your Honour, but resolve by the Ties of Marriage to make you a Partner in my Bed. Sir, she replied, tho' a poor Maid may justly be ambitious to be thus advanced upon any Terms, yet I retain that Duty to my Foster Father, that I would not presume to dispose of my self without his Consent to the greatest Monarch of the Universe. *Cormac* applauded her Resolution, and desired to be conducted to the Cottage where *Buiciodb* was; and when he came, he informed him of his Design and the Sincerity of his Passion, and engaged upon the Honour of a Prince to remove him out of that solitary Retirement, and bestow Wealth and Lands upon him, suitable to the Generosity of his Soul, if he would consent that the beautiful *Eithne* should be his Wife. *Buiciodb* rejoiced at his good Fortune, especially because his fair Charge, whom he affectionately loved, was to be the Wife of a Prince, and soon complied with his Request. *Cormac* fulfilled his Promise to *Buiciodb*, and gave him the Tract of Land called *Tuath Odbrain*, that is situated near the Palace of *Tara*, and furnished him with a great Stock of Cattel and other Necessaries, by which Means he was made happy during his Life; and then the Marriage was consummated with the beautiful *Eithne*, by whom he had a Son, who made a great Figure in the *Irish* History, called *Cairbre Liffeachair*. This *Cormac*, the Monarch of *Ireland*, it must be observed, was a Prince of the most consummate Wisdom, understood perfectly the Maxims of Government, and was the most accomplished Statesman of the Age; and as a Testimony of his Learning and political Knowledge, he wrote a Tract for the Use of his Son *Cairbre Liffeachair*, intitled, *Advice to Kings*, which is worthy to be inscribed in golden Characters for the Information of Princes, and as a most complete Standard of Policy

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maie agur  
eithne an yó  
7c.

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fed n 7  
Spruic ó  
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cormac an  
teda5r5  
n105 do 63  
bne maie  
cormac.

to all Ages. He was very solicitous in revising and purging the ancient Laws of the Kingdom, and established new Acts and Ordinances for the Regulation of his Subjects, exactly calculated to the Genius and Temper of his People. He was likewise a Prince of great Munificence and Hospitality, and supported the royal Dignity of a King in the utmost State and Grandeur. We may form a Judgment of the splendid and magnificent Court of this Monarch by the Description of his Palace, where he kept his Residence, called in the *Irish* Language the Royal Seat of *Miodchuarta*. The Account of this noble Fabrick we receive from the Relation of *Amergin*, the Son of *Amalgadba*, Son of *Maolruadbna*, an eminent Poet retained in the Family of *Diarmod mac Carrol*, and to be found in the Book that treats of the *Description of Places and Buildings*, written by this learned Author. This Palace of *Miodchuarta* was built, it must be confessed, a long Time before *Cormac* came to the Crown; for in this House it was that *Slanoll*, one of the Monarchs of *Ireland*, died many Years before *Cormac* was born: But it was repaired and enlarged by this Prince, and made a banqueting House, for the Reception and Entertainment of his own Nobility, and the Embassadors of foreign Princes. The Length of this Structure was three hundred Cubits, it was thirty Cubits in Height, and fifty Cubits in Breadth; a Lanthorn of curious Workmanship and of a large Size hung up in the middle of the *State Room*; fourteen Doors belonged to the House, and the lodging Apartments were furnished with a hundred and fifty Beds, beside the *Royal Bed* of State, where the King himself usually lay. Never was there a Monarch in the Throne of *Ireland*, that was attended with a more noble Retinue; for he had in constant Pay a hundred and fifty of the most distinguished Champions of the Kingdom as the *Yeomen of his Guard*, to wait upon his Person, especially to serve him at his Table when he dined in Publick; at which Time he was served in an hundred and fifty Cups of massy Gold and Silver. The household Guards that were in constant Attendance, consisted of a thousand and fifty of the bravest Men in his whole Army; and other Ensigns and Distinctions of Royalty he had about him, which would have been no Reproach to the Dignity of the greatest Princes. A Poet of great Antiquity has transmitted to us the Character of this munificent King, the Lines are these.

S f f

The

*The melancholy Art, who fill'd the Throne  
Of Ireland, had but one Son, the brave Cormac,  
A Prince most generous, liberal and free,  
Who rais'd the Grandeur of the Irish Nation,  
And made it famed throughout the World.*

Cormac had a numerous Issue ; his Children were three Sons and ten Daughters, as an eminent Poet has given us to understand in this Manner.

*Ten Princesses of most accomplish'd Beauty,  
Were Daughters of Cormac the Irish King ;  
Three Sons he had of a superior Courage,  
Their Names were Daire, Cairbre and Ceallach.*

The first named of the three young Princes was slain at *Dubhrois*, near the Banks of the River *Boyne* at *Breag*; *Ceallach*, another of the Brothers, fell by the Hand of *Aongus Gaothbhualteach*, as the following Verses composed by a Poet of great Veracity informs us.

*The valiant Aongus Gaothbhualteach  
Slew Ceallach, a Prince, the Son of Cormac;  
His Brother Daire unfortunately fell  
With the renowned Thady, Son of Ceinn,  
At Dubhrois, near the River Boyne.*

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76.

It may not be improper in this Place, the better to illustrate this part of the History, to mention particularly, the Genealogies of some of the principal Persons concern'd in the Government, and in the publick Administration of the *Irish* Affairs. It must be observed therefore, for this purpose, that *Feidhblime Reachtmar* had three Sons, their Names were *Conn Ceadathbach*, who was known by the Title of the *Hero of the hundred Battels*, *Eochaidh Fionn*, and *Fiachadh Suidhe*, as before mention'd. The Posterity of *Conn* were Kings, and govern'd in *Tara*; the second Brother, whose Name was *Eochaidh Fionn*, went into *Leinster* at the Time when *Cuchorb* the Son of *Modbachorb*, was King of that Province. *Laoighseach Cean More*, the Son of *Connall Cearnach*, had his Education with the Prince *Eochaidh Fionn*, and at this Time that the Inhabitants of *Munster* made Incur-sions into *Leinster*, and conquer'd a large Proportion of that



that Province; and by the Success of their Arms they were in Possession of *Offery* and *Laoigheis*, as far as the Top of *Maissean*. *Cuchorb* then reign'd in *Leinster*, and perceiving that the Forces of *Munster* had got footing in his Province, and were not easily to be expell'd by his own Strength, he intreated the Assistance of *Eochaidh Fionn*, to drive them back into their own Territories; *Eochaidh* complied with his Request, and sent Commissions to his Friends and Allies, to attend upon him with a competent Number of Troops to engage in this Expedition. His Orders were faithfully obey'd, and he advanced his Companion *Laoigheach Cean More*, who was bred up with him, to be the General of his Forces; *Cuchorb* put himself at the Head of what Men he could engage to follow him, and joined his Ally, who thought it proper that his Friend *Laoigheach* should be Commander in chief of the whole Army.

Thus united they marched towards the *Momonians* or the Men of *Munster*, who apprehending they should be attack'd prepared to receive them. The two Armies soon engaged, and a bloody Action follow'd, where both Sides fought with great Vigor and Bravery; and it was difficult for some Time to judge which way the Victory would incline: But Fortune after a sharp Dispute declared in favour of the Confederate Army, who broke the Ranks of the Enemy with terrible Slaughter, and routed them from the Top of *Maissean* to the River *Bearbha*. The Battle was fought at a Place called *Athtrodain*, known now by the Name of *Athy*, situated upon the River *Bearbha*, now called *Bearow*. And the *Momonians* in this Engagement were defeated, and the Flower of their Troops lay dead upon the Spot.

The *Lagenians*, or the Men of *Leinster*, animated with this Success, pursued the Chace, and perceiving that a strong Body of the Enemy had rallied, and were drawn up in Order at *Cainthine* on *Magh Riada*, now called *Laoigheis*, that is *Laise* or *Leise Riada*, the Victors fell upon them with desperate Fury, and put them to Flight; then pursued them to *Slighe Dhala*, now called *Bealach More Offery*, where the Forces of *Leinster* made so dreadful a Slaughter of the *Momonians*, that they were forced to desist for Want of Enemies to kill; which Victory re-settled the State of that Province, and so discouraged the Men of *Munster*, that they never attempted to enlarge their Bounds, but were glad

glad to confine themselves within their own Territories.

*Cuchorb* being reinstated in his Dominions by the Assistance of *Eochaidh Fionn*, out of Gratitude thought himself obliged to make a Recompence for his Services, and therefore he generously bestowed upon him the seven *Fothortuaths*, and confirmed this Donation by perpetuating the Right to his Posterity for ever; *Laoighseach*, the General of the Confederate Army, who had his Education with *Eochaidh Fionn*, he rewarded with the seven *Laoighises*, to be enjoyed by him and his Heirs; for he confessed, that the Success of the Expedition was owing to the Valour and Conduct of the General, whose military Experience gave him the Advantage over the Incapacity of the commanding Officer in the Enemy's Army, which he made that Use of as to obtain a complete Victory.

de bpoñ cu-  
éurb na ye-  
af bpoñ ar-  
guat laigi-  
on do co-  
chaidh fionn.

From this Instance of Gratitude to *Laoighseach*, the Posterity of this General took upon themselves the Title of Kings of *Leix* or *Leise*; and the King of *Leinster*, being sensible that he owed his Crown to the Bravery of this Commander, obliged himself and his Successors in that Province to make a perpetual Acknowledgment to the Kings of *Leix* in Memory of the Service he received from *Laoighseach*, who restored him to his Throne. He established it by Law, that the Kings of *Leix* should have a just Claim for ever to a *Sirloin* of every *Beeve* that was killed in the royal Slaughter-house for the Use of the Kings of *Leinster*, and that one of the King of *Leinster's* *Galloglach's* or Receivers should attend constantly in the King of *Leinster's* Court, and should have a Salary allowed him for that Purpose, whose sole Business it should be to supervise and collect this Tribute for the Use of the King of *Leix*.

It was ordained likewise, that the King of *Leix*, for the Time being, should be allowed a Place at the Council-board of the King of *Leinster*, and was to take his Place in the fourth Degree at all publick Assemblies and Entertainments, and but three were admitted to sit above him nearer the King. He was to enjoy the principal Office in the Treasury, and to distribute the King's Bounty and Munificence to the Gentry, the Antiquaries, the Poets and Musicians, and the learned in all Arts and Professions, whose Abilities intitled them to

a Reward; and whatever Presents or Acknowledgements were sent to the King, were transmitted to him, and passed thro' his Hands. It was injoyned farther, that seven of the royal Family of *Loighis* or *Leix* should constantly attend the Person of the King of *Leinster* at home and abroad as a fixed Guard; for which Service they were to be honourably maintained at the Charge of the Crown of *Leinster*. But the King of *Leix*, in Return for these Privileges, was obliged to maintain at his own Expence a hundred and fifty stout Soldiers to serve in the Army of the King of *Leinster*, who were bound to execute the most difficult and dangerous Commands; to force the Lines of the Enemy, tho' with the utmost Hazard; to beat them out of their Quarters, and to distinguish themselves in the hottest Part of the Battel.

It was observed above, that *Laoighseach Ceanmor*, the first King of *Laoighis* or *Leix* was brought up, and had his Education with *Eochaidh Fionn*, Son of *Feidhlimidh Reachmar*, the first King of *Fothartuath*; for which Reason it was that the Kings of *Leix* were obliged to be ready upon all Occasions, with a competent Number of Troops, to assist the King of *Fothartuath* upon the first Summons, and this Custom was faithfully observed by the Kings of *Leix* to the Time of *Henry* the Second, King of *England*.

The second Brother of *Conn*, the Hero of the hundred Battels, was called *Fiachadh Suidhe*; this Prince was very powerful, and was in Possession of a large Tract of Lands near the Palace of *Tara*, that was known by the Name of *Deisi Teambrach*, but he was never fixed in the Sovereignty of the Kingdom. He had three Sons, whose Names were *Rosa*, *Aongus*, distinguished by the Title of *Gaoithbbhuailteach*, and *Eogan*: The second Brother, *Aongus*, was the most accomplished Soldier of the three; for he had signalized himself in several Engagements, was very expert in military Discipline, and Victory scarce ever failed him.

At this Time it happened that there was a Person of principal Note in the Kingdom, who had by his Misbehaviour fallen under the Displeasure of *Cormac*, who could not be induc'd, by the Application of his greatest Favourites, to receive him into his Esteem, till *Aongus* undertook to be his Advocate, and humbly interceded for his Pardon; the King was at first inflexible; but

when *Aongus* offered himself to be bound for his Fidelity and good Conduct for the Time to come, *Cormac* was prevailed upon to forbear his Resentments, and admit the discarded Favourite into his Court. This Reconciliation, procured by the Intercession of *Aongus*, was so disagreeable to the young Prince *Ceallach*, the Son of *Cormac*, that he seized violently, and without Commifion, upon the forgiven Offender, and when he had him in Custody, he never asked the Consent of his Father, but in Revenge he put out both his Eyes. *Aongus* being informed of this Barbarity, resented it in an outrageous Manner, and being incensed at the Treachery of the Action, he raised a numerous Army, and appearing himself at the Head of them, he marched towards *Tara*, to chastise the Insolence of the young Prince, and to do Justice to his injured Friend. *Cormac*, alarmed at this formidable Rebellion, prepared to defend himself and his Son; but *Aongus* made a vigorous Attack, and slew *Ceallach* with his Lance, as he stood by his Father's Side; and likewise at another Throw he struck out one of the King's Eyes with his Spear.

But *Cormac*, nothing discouraged at these Misfortunes, resolved to crush the Rebellion; and having a gallant Army about him, he offered Battel to the haughty Traytor, and, with a terrible Slaughter of his best Troops, drove him out of the Field. After this Defeat, *Aongus* and his Brothers retired for Protection to the Province of *Leinster*, where they continued for one Year; from thence they removed to *Offery*; but this Place was no safe Refuge for them, which obliged them to fly to the Court of *Oilioll Olum*, who they supposed would be inclined to succour them, because he had married the Princess *Sadbhbh*, the Daughter of *Conn*, to whom they had a near Relation.

*Oilioll Olum*, was moved with Compassion at the miserable Distresses of the three Brothers, and bestowed upon them for a present Support the Territories of *Deasie* in the Province of *Munster*; and the Reason he conferred upon them this Tract of Land, was, because they were in Possession of the *Deisie* near the Palace of *Tara* before this Misfortune happened, and by their Defeat were obliged to seek for new Settlements, or fall a Sacrifice to the Arms of the Conqueror.

The Brothers gratefully accepted of the Lands assigned them, and without Quarrels or Disputes they divided the

the Country between them into three equal Parts: Some of the old Records assert, that these young Princes were the lineal Descendents of *Oilioll Aram*, and were called *Earnaighe*; but this appears to be a Mistake; for they were improperly distinguished by that Name, because the *Earnaighe* were the Posterity of *Conaire*, the Son of *Mogha Lamba*, justly speaking, who are particularly mentioned in the preceding Part of this History. The Reason why these Brothers, the Sons of *Fiachadh Suidhe*, applied to the Court of *Munster* for Protection, was the Persuasion of *Corc Duibhne*, the Son of *Cairbre Muisc*; and the Posterity of these Princes were known by the Name of *Deasies*. This Tribe was conducted into this Province by *Eochaidh Fionn*, the Son of *Reachtmar*, and the three Brothers *Rosa*, *Eogan*, and *Aongus Gaotbbhuail-teach*.

At the Time when these young Princes arrived in *Munster*, *Cairbre Muisc* had a considerable Interest in that Province: But his Wickedness was a Scourge to the whole Country; for during his Residence there the Fruits of the Earth were all destroyed, and the Corn was blasted, which occasioned a very dreadful Famine. The particular Act of Impiety that was supposed to provoke the Vengeance of Heaven, was his committing Incest with his own Sister, whose Name was *Duibhin*, who proved with Child. When the Time of her Delivery came, she had two Sons, whom she named *Cormac* and *Corc*. The Father and Mother of this incestuous Issue were the Children of *Modha Lamba* and of *Sarah* his Wife, who was the Daughter of the renowned *Conn*, the Hero of the *hundred Battels*.

The Inhabitants of *Munster*, particularly the principal Gentry of the Country, were so alarmed at the miserable Scarcity of Provisions, that they applied to *Cairbre*, and inquired if he could inform them of the Occasion of the dreadful Famine that raged thro' the whole Province. *Cairbre* being conscious that his Guilt deserved so severe a Judgment, told them he was of Opinion that his own Impiety was the Cause of that Visitation, particularly an Act of Incest he committed with his own Sister, who bore him two Sons, whom he called *Corc* and *Cormac*. The Gentry were moved with Horror and Indignation at so base a Crime, and demanded, by Way of Atone-ment, that the Children should be delivered into their Hands, whom they proposed to put to Death, to burn their



their Bodies to Ashes, and to cast the Dust into a Stream that was near the Place.

When this Transaction happened, there was a *Druid* in the Company, whose Name was *Dionach*; this Soothsayer had Recourse to his Art, and found it expedient, that one of the Brothers, called *Cormac*, should be given up to the People; but *Corc*, the younger Son, he desired might be delivered into his Hands, and he promised to convey him out of *Ireland*: This Motion was agreed to by the whole Assembly, and accordingly the Prophet took up the Child assign'd him, and travelled to the Sea Shore, where he procured a Vessel, and weighed Anchor, and landed with the Infant at a small Island called *Inis Baoi*: It had this Name from an old Woman stiled *Baoi*, who lived there, and to her the *Druid* delivered the Child, who took Care of him for the Space of a Year; and then the *Druid*, who never left him, rewarded the Nurse for her Trouble, and returned with him back into *Ireland*. When he arrived, he brought him to his Grandmother by his Father and Mother, whose Name was *Sarah*, delivering withal a strict Charge, that she should give him handsome Education with all imaginable Privacy, and secure him from the Knowledge and Resentment of the People of *Munster*.

The *Deafies*, affected with these Calamities of the Province, consulted the most eminent *Druids*, whether the Country should be destroyed, or enjoy a State of Peace and Happiness for the Time to come; for if they apprehended there would be any Wars or Commotions among the Inhabitants, they resolved not to abide the Issue, but to remove and seek for new Settlements. The Soothsayers gave them to understand, that it was proper they should continue in the Country; and informed them withal, that the Wife of *Eana Cinnsealach*, whose Name was *Cuingion*, was far gone with Child, and she would be delivered of a Daughter, and as soon as she was born, they were to apply themselves to the Father, to desire the Nursing and the Education of her; if he refused their Request, they were to make a suitable Present to the Father, and that would prevail with him to resign her to their Disposal; and the Reason of these Instructions was, because it was foreseen that this Child should consult the Interest, and bestow great Advantages upon that Family: The *Deafies* gave Belief to the Prediction,

tion, and following the Advice of their *Druids*, they obtained the Child of her Father. But the Prophecy being not to be accomplished till the Child was marriageable, they were impatient till she was of a suitable Age; and to forward her Growth they slew many young Children, and fed her with their Flesh. This Method of dieting her, promoted her Inclinations, and she was capable of Marriage some Years sooner than the usual Age. The Name of this Lady was *Eithne Vatbach*, whose Husband, it was predicted, should be a fast Friend to the Tribe of the *Deasies*, and therefore they made Inquiry for a Husband proper for her; and when the Articles of Marriage were settled, they bestowed her upon *Aongus*, the Son of *Nadhfraoich*, King of *Munster*. But this Prince could not obtain her without a Gratuity to the Family that brought her up; and therefore *Aongus* delivered as a Dowry into the Possession of the *Deasies* the Lands of *Magh Feimbin*, consisting of the third Part of *Cluain Mell*, and the middle third: But he was first obliged to drive the People of *Offery* out of those Estates, who at that Time were the Possessors of them. A considerable Time after this, *Eneas* and this Lady *Eithne* were slain by the People of *Leinster*, in the Battel of *Ceallosnadh*, four Miles Eastward of *Lathglin*.

The Posterity of *Fiachadh Suidbe*, who were distinguished by the Name of the *Deasies*, had not when they first came into *Munster* any Lands in that Province, but that Part of the Country call'd *Deasie Disceart* or the *South Deasie*, which extends it self from the River *Siur* to the *South Sea*, and from *Liosmore* to *Ceann Criadain*, till the Marriage of this Lady *Eithne* with the Prince *Aongus* Son of *Nadhfraoich*, King of *Munster*; for then it was (in Accomplishment of the Prediction) that he confer'd upon the Tribe of *Deasie* the Country call'd *Tuasgirt* or *North Deasie*, which contains the Tract of Lands from the River *Siur* aforesaid, to *Corca Asbrach*, known by the Name of *Machaire Chaisil*, or the Plains of *Cashel*.

There was a Prince call'd *O Faolan*, that descended lineally from that Family that was King of *North Deasie*, and he erected a stately Palace and kept his Court Westwards of *Dunleamhnachta*, which Structure continues the Name of *Dun Faolan* to this Day. He had a Relation of the same Family who fix'd himself in the Possession

of *Deasie Deisgeirt* or the *South Deasie*, and from him *O Bric* received its Name. His royal Seat was situated near the Coasts of the *South Sea* call'd *Oilean O Bric*, or the Island of *Bric*; and between these two Families was the Government of the two Divisions of the *Deasie* continued till the Death of *O Bric*, who left no Issue behind him; and then the Government of both Parts fell into the Hands of *Faolain*, whose Descendents possess'd the Sovereignty for many Years and Successions, till they were driven out of the *North Deasie*, by the prevailing Power of the Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, the Son of *Milesius*, who conquer'd that Part of the Country, and left no more to the Kings of that Tribe than the *South Deasie*; and in this Posture were both *Deasies* found by the *English*, who were brought into *Ireland* by *Diarmaid*, *Mac Morough*, King of *Leinster*.

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Faolain an  
ro 7c.

baille ur-  
luidhe 7 an-  
deonach anro  
7c.

It must be observed in this Place, that *Aongus Offery* and his Followers had the Command of *Magh Feimhin* (called the *North Deasie*) and that *Aongus* was forced to abandon his Possession of *Magh Feimhin*, and was expelled the Country by the Posterity of *Fiachadh Suidhe* with all his Relations and Dependents; so that from this general Defeat of *Aongus Offery* it is that *Baille Urhuidhe* and *Mullach Andeonach* are known by the same Name to this Day; for the Word *Urhuidhe* in the *Irish* Language signifies the *Blows* or irresistible *Strokes* of valiant Men, and *Andeonach* is as much as to say a violent Expulsion.

*Cormac*, the Son of *Art*, King of *Ireland*, had at that Time a numerous Family to maintain, and his Revenue was so small, that he was not able to find Provisions, especially a sufficient Quantity of Flesh, to support them suitable to his Quality. He therefore advised with his Treasurer, who had the principal Management of his Affairs, and knew the Exigency of his Fortune, what Method he should take to keep up the Dignity of his Table, and to subsist his Attendants, till his Subsidies and Tributes would become due, and enable him to defray the Expence. His Treasurer being sensible of the Wants of his Master, gave his Opinion, that there was no other Redress left, but to raise a Number of resolute and well disciplined Troops, and enter the Province of *Munster* in a hostile Manner, and demand of the King of *Ireland* the Revenue that lay in Arrear; for Sir, says he, there are two Provinces

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in *Munster*, and you receive Contributions but from one of them; your Business therefore is to insist upon your Right, to demand what you have been defrauded of, and if he should deny your Claim, to plunder the Country, and to force a just Acknowledgment from the Inhabitants.

This Advice was well received by *Cormac*, who immediately put it in Execution; he therefore dispatched a proper Messenger to *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, the King of *Munster*, and made a Demand of the Revenue arising from one of the Provinces which had been unjustly detained from him: The Message was received with Contempt, and *Fiachadh* returned this Answer, that the Demand was unprecedented, none of his Predecessors, the Kings of *Ireland*, ever received an additional Tribute from the Province, neither would he distress his Subjects by raising new Contributions, which they had no Right to pay. *Cormac* upon the Return of the Messenger was incensed with this Denial, and raised an Army with all Expedition; and directed this March toward *Munster*. He entered the Province as an Enemy, and came as far as *Druim Da Maire* (which Place is now called *Choc Luinge*) where he halted and encamped with his Forces. *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, the King of *Munster*, perceiving he should be attacked, was ready to receive him, and encamping with his Army in the very Face of *Cormac*, resolved to try the Issue of a Battle.

But *Cormac* not confiding wholly in the Courage of his Forces, had Recourse to Policy, and having a great Number of *Scottish Druids* and *Inchanters* in his Army, desired the Assistance of their Skill to annoy and dispirit the Enemy. These *Necromancers* made use of their Art, and, by Charms and Incantations, occasioned the greatest Trouble and Inconvenience to the Army of *Munster*; particularly their magical Skill had that Success, as to dry up all the Water that was in the Enemy's Camp; so that the Soldiers and the Cattel were in the utmost Distress, and were ready to expire for Thirst.

The King of *Munster* lamented this sad Calamity among his Forces, and hearing of an eminent *Druid* that lived in *Ciarruidhe Luachra*, whose Name was *Modharuith*, he sent to him, and requested him to deliver his Army out of these Difficulties; but the crafty *Druid* taking Advantage of the Misfortune of the King, denied

denied his Assistance, unless he had confirmed to him, as a Reward, the two Territories (now called *Roche's Country* and the Country of *Condon*) and settled upon his Posterity for ever; upon that Condition he engaged to deliver the Army of *Munster* from under the Power of the *Scottish Incantations*, and to procure Plenty of Water in the Camp.

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The Necessity of the King's Affairs obliged him to comply with this unconscionable Demand, and the *Druid* had immediate Recourse to his Art. The Counter Charm which he used upon this Occasion, was an *enchanted Dart* he had in his Hand, which he flung into the Air with all his Force; declaring, that from the Spot of Ground, upon which the Arrow fell, there should spring a Fountain of the purest Water sufficient to supply the Wants of the whole Army; and so it came to pass. By this Means the Soldiers were relieved and inspired with fresh Courage; and enraged with the Miseries they had endured, they desired the King to lead them against the Enemy, and they promised him full Revenge, and assured him of Victory. He accordingly drew out his Forces, and offered Battel to the King of *Ireland*, who distrusting the Courage of his Soldiers, fled for his Security without striking a Blow, and was pursued so closely by the King of *Munster*, that he was overtaken at *Offery*, and obliged to capitulate. The Conditions insisted on were, that he was to deliver up Hostages, which were to be the principal of his Nobility, and send them from *Tara* to *Raith Naoi* (now called *Cnoc Rathfarn*) as a solemn Assurance, that he would repair all the Losses the People of *Munster* had sustained by the Plundering and Depredations of his Army from the Time that he first entered the Province. These Terms were accepted; for they were offered Sword in Hand: And the Testimony of an old Poet, who wrote of these Affairs, confirms this Account in these Lines.

*The valiant Fiachadh Muilleathan,  
 The warlike Monarch of the Southern Coasts  
 Receiv'd the Hostages who came from Tara  
 To Rathfuinn and Rath Naoi.*

This Prince, the victorious *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, had two Sons, whose Names were *Oilioll Flann More* and *Oilioll Flan*



*Flan Beag.* Oilioll *Flan More*, who was the eldest died without Issue, and all the Posterity descended from *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, were the Offspring of *Oilioll Flan Beag*, whose Descendents were very numerous, and of great Authority in the Province of *Munster*. This is taken notice of in the Verses of an old Poet in this Manner :

*Two worthy Princes of the royal Blood  
Of Fiachadh Muilleathan,  
Were Oilioll Flan More and Oilioll Flan Beag.  
The eldest, with a Child was never blest ;  
The youngest, with a numerous Progeny,  
O'erspread the Province.*

The Prince, *Oilioll Flan More*, having no Child of his own, by publick Authority adopted his Brother *Oilioll Flan Beag* for his Son, and demised to him all his Fortune and Estate, upon this Condition, that his Name should be inserted in the lineal Genealogies between the Name of his Father *Fiachadh Muilleathan* and that of his Brother, in Order to make Posterity believe that he was the Father of *Oilioll Flan Beag*; and the Pedigrees, belonging to all the spreading Branches of that Line, have the Name of *Oilioll Flan More* disposed according to the Contract agreed to by the two Brothers, and are delivered down in the same Form thro' many Ages. The *Psalter of Cashel* likewise, and others of the most ancient and authentick Chronicles of *Ireland*, take Notice of these Genealogies, with the Name of this Prince placed next to his Father's; tho' the Writers of those Times were sensible that *Oilioll Flan More* was not the Father of *Oilioll Flan Beag*: Notwithstanding the publick Records of the Kingdom always mention the Name of *Oilioll Flann More* in the Genealogy of *Fiachadh Muilleathan*; but with no Design to impose upon Posterity, only in Observance to the Agreement between the two Brothers, upon the Consideration before mentioned.

We are now come to the Death of this renowned Prince *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, who was treacherously slain by *Conla*, the Son of *Thady*, Son of *Cian*, Son of *Oiliolla Olum*, at the Ford called *Ath Uisíol* upon the River *Siur*. And this barbarous Act was accomplished in this Manner. *Conla*, it must be observed, had his Education

tion with *Cormac*, Monarch of *Ireland*, where he was instructed in military Discipline, and in the polite Parts of Learning, and was bred up suitably to his Descent and Quality. When he was young, it happened that he had a sharp Humour in his Blood, which occasioned a scabby and leprous Scurf all over his Body; the most eminent Physicians were applied to, and they administered Medicines, but without Success: The young Prince became a most frightful Object; for his whole Body was broken out, and covered, as it were, with Scales. This Misfortune was lamented by the whole Court, but by none more than by *Cormac* himself, who had conceived a sincere Affection for him, as he was his Companion from a Child. In those Times it was esteemed the highest Accomplishment to understand Divination and Soothsaying, and *Cormac* was become so great a Proficient in those Studies, that, for the Service of his Friend, he try'd the utmost of his Skill; and upon Consultation was able to foretel, that he should never be delivered from that Distemper, but, without Remedy, continue afflicted with the Leprosie, unless he could find Means to wash his Body all over in the Blood of a King. Soon after this Prediction, *Conla*, despairing of a Cure, took his Leave of *Cormac* and his Court, and came into the Province of *Munster*, over which *Fiachadh Muilleathan* was then King, and kept his Residence at *Rath Rathsuinn*, now called *Cnoc Rathsuinn*. In the Court of this Prince he was received with great Favour and Civility, and, notwithstanding the Appearance of his Distemper, he was admitted near the Person of the King. Some Time after it happened that *Fiachadh*, attended by his Nobles and his Retinue of State, resolved to divert themselves by swimming in the River *Siur*, and *Conla*, who was his near Relation, was so well esteemed as to have the Honour of carrying his *Lance*. When they arrived upon the Bank of the River, his Servants undressed him, and he plunged into *Aith Uisfoil* to bath and refresh himself. He had not been long in the Water, but *Conla* observed him swimming towards him, and making his Way towards the Shore. The Prediction of *Cormac* came instantly into his Mind, and thinking this a proper Opportunity to accomplish it, he basely violated the Laws of Gratitude and Hospitality, and ran the King thro' the Body with his own Spear. The Wound

was mortal, and the Attendants advancing to take full Revenge upon the Traytor, the expiring Prince laid his dying Commands upon them to save his Life, and pardoned the Murderer. His Orders were faithfully obeyed; *Conla* had his Life spared, and the King was carried on Shore, and instantly died.

It was observed before in a preceding Part of this History, that *Cormac*, King of *Ireland*, had ten Daughters; yet the ancient Records being silent, and mentioning nothing memorable of eight of these Princesses, what they have related of the other two will properly be introduced in this Place. The Name of one of these Ladies was *Graine*, who was married to *Fionn*, the Son of *Cumball*, but being of an amorous Disposition, she left him and stole away with her Gallant *Diarmuid* do gndine  
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male 7 do  
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Si qmro o *O Duibhne*; the other was called *Ailbhe*, who was married to her Sister's Husband *Fionn*, the Son of *Cumball*.

From this *Fionn*, the established *Militia* of the Kingdom were called *Fiana Eirionn*; and if it should be asserted either thro' Ignorance or Prejudice, that there were no such *standing* Body of Troops in the Island as these *Train'd Bands*, to evince the contrary, let it be considered that this Part of History is to be supported by Evidence not to be opposed. The constant Tradition of the ancient *Irish* concerning the *Militia*, who have delivered down from Father to Son a continued Account of many great and memorable Exploits performed by the Bravery of these Troops for many Ages, is a Testimony of Force sufficient with an impartial Judgment to prove, that the brave *Fiana* or *Train'd Bands* were fixed upon the *Irish* Establishment, and were the *standing Army* of the Kingdom. As a farther Argument upon this Occasion let it be observed, that to deny the Authority of this Tradition, is not only to suppose that the ancient *Irish* for many Centuries conspired to abuse Posterity with a Fiction, but by this Means the Reputation of the most authentick Records is disputed, which particularly relate the Actions of the *Irish* Militia. Besides, there remain to this Day several unquestionable Monuments of these old Soldiers, to deny which, is to disbelieve Matter of Fact, and to oppose the common Reason of Mankind. Some of the remaining Footsteps of these old Warriors are known by their first Names at this Time; as for instance, *Suidhe Finn*,

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or the Palace of *Fionn*, situated at *Sliabh na Mban*, or the *Woman's Mountain*, which Seat was so call'd from *Fionn O Baoisgne*. *Gleann Garruidh* in *Vibh Fathach* received its Name from *Garruidh Mac Morna*; *Leaba Dhiarmuda* and *Graine*, which signifies *Diarmuid*, and *Graine's Bed*, and stood at a place call'd *Polltighe Liabain* in *Vibh Fiachrach*, in *O Shagnusie's* Country. Many Instances to the same purpose might be produced to prove that many places in the Kingdom retain, to this Day, the Names of some of the old *Irish Militia*, but these are sufficient, and to mention more, would Occasion too wide a Breach in the Progress of this History.

If it should be objected, that it is not to be supposed some particular Transactions relating to *O Fionn*, and his *Fiana Eirion*, or the *Irish Militia*, can obtain Belief, because some of the Circumstances are impossible in Fact, and therefore must be absolutely false, I confess indeed that the History of *Ireland*, in some degree, labours under the same Misfortune, with most of the old Chronicles that were written in the Times of Idolatry and Paganism; and there is scarce a Country upon Earth, I suppose, whose primitive Records are not disguised with Fable and some incredible Relations; and even since Christianity appeared in the World, and the Clouds of Superstition and Ignorance, were, in some Measure, dispell'd, many strange and romantick Accounts have been delivered with an Air of Truth, and have obtained Credit among weak Judgments, notwithstanding the monstrous Inconsistencies they abound with. But it is an unjustifiable Consequence to conclude from hence, that the old Records and Chronicles of all Nations are Fables and Rhapsodies; as if Antiquity were a sure and infallible Mark of Falshood, and that the antient Writers were a Gang of Cheats and Impostors, who conspir'd together to transmit Lies and to impose upon Posterity.

It cannot be denied however, that many poetical Fictions and suspected Relations are foisted into the Chronicles that treat of *Fionn* and his *Irish Militia*; such as the Battel of *Fionn Tragha*, *Bruighean Chaorthuin*, *Achra*, and *Ghiolla Dheacair*, which are Accounts, not so much design'd to gain Credit, as to relieve the Reader, and to embellish and set off the History; and therefore to weaken the Authority of the whole, upon the account of some poetical Fables interspers'd, is too severe and

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unjustifiable a Piece of Criticism, and contrary to the common Candour allowed to such ancient Writings.

In some of the Records which treat of the old Militia of *Ireland* it is asserted, that they were a Body of Men so strong, and so tall of Stature as is really incredible; for it is certain tho' they were a brave and undaunted Number of Troops, yet the Size of their Persons did not exceed the common Proportion of those Times. They were no more than a standing well disciplin'd Army, under the Monarchs of *Ireland* (in whose Hands the *Militia* ever was) that were kept in regular and constant Pay. Their Business was to defend the Country against foreign or domestick Enemies, to support the Right and Succession of their Kings; and to be ready at the shortest Notice upon any Surprise or Emergencies of the State: They were to guard the Sea Coasts, and to have a strict Eye upon the Creeks and Havens of the Island, lest any Pirates should be lurking there to plunder the Country, and infest the Inhabitants; and they were established for the same Purposes, as a standing Body of Forces are kept up in any Nation, to defend it from Invasions, to support the Rights and Privileges of the Crown, and to secure the Liberty and Property of the People.

The Way of subsisting these Troops was by billeting them upon the Country from *Allballow-tide* to the Month of *May*, which was the Winter Season; during the other Part of the Year, they were obliged to fish and to hunt, and find Provision for themselves. But they were confined to perform their military Exercise, and to be under Discipline. The Officers were enjoined not to oppress, but to defend the Inhabitants from the Attempts of Thieves and Robbers, and to promote the Peace and Happiness of the People: It was their Duty to quell all Riots and Insurrections, to raise Fines, and secure forfeited Estates for the Use of the King; to inquire into, and suppress all seditious and traitorous Practices in the Beginning, and to appear in Arms when any Occasions of the State required.

For these Services they were allowed a regular Pay, as the Princes of *Europe* at this Day maintain their Armies; for tho' this *Militia* had no Pay from the Kings of *Ireland* but when they were in Winter Quarters, from *Allballow-tide* to the Month of *May*; yet, as was observed before,

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they had the Privilege for the other Part of the Year to fish and to fowl for their Support; which was equivalent to their settled Pay; for the Flesh of what they killed they eat, and the Skins they had Liberty to sell, which afforded a good Price.

The Method of dressing their Meat was very particular; for when they had Success in hunting, it was their Custom in the Forenoon to send their Huntsman with what they had killed to a proper Place where there was plenty of Wood and Water; here they kindled great Fires, into which their Way was to throw a Number of large Stones, where they were to continue till they were red hot; then they applied themselves to dig two great Pits in the Earth, into one of which upon the Bottom they used to lay some of these hot Stones as a Pavement, upon them they would place the raw Flesh, bound up hard in green Sedge or Bull-rushes; over these Bundles was fixed another *Lay* of hot Stones, then a Quantity of Flesh; and this Method was observed till the Pit was full. In this Manner their Flesh was sodden or stewed till it was fit to eat, and then they uncovered it; and, when the Hole was emptied, they began their Meal. This *Irish Militia*, it must be observed, never eat but once in four and twenty Hours, and their Meal Time was always in the Evening. When they had a Mind to alter their Diet, instead of stewing their Meat, as we have mentioned, they would roast it before these Fires, and make it palatable and wholesome.

And, as an undisputed Evidence of these Fires, the Marks of them continue deep in the Earth in many Places of the Island to this Day; for they were very large, and burned exceeding fierce, and the Impression they left is now to be met with many Foot deep in the Ground. When any Husbandman in *Ireland* turns up with his Plow any black burnt Earth, he immediately knows the Occasion of it; and the Soil of that Colour is known, with great Propriety, by the Name of *Fulacht Fian* to this Time.

When the *Irish Militia* came to these Fires to dress their Meat, before they went to eat they would strip themselves to their Shirts, which they modestly tied about their Middles, and go into the other Pit dug in the Ground, which was very large, and filled with Water. Here they would wash their Heads and Necks and other Parts of their Bodies, till they had cleansed themselves

themselves from the Sweat and Dust occasioned by their Hunting. And this Custom was very wholesome and refreshing; for they would rub their Limbs and their Joints till they had forgot all their Fatigue, and became as sprightly and active as when they began their Sport in the Morning: When they were perfectly clean they would put on their Clothes, and begin their Meal.

After they had eaten they would apply themselves to build Huts and Tents, where they made their Beds, and designed to repose themselves for the following Night. These Beds were composed and laid out with great Exactness. They cut down Branches of Trees, which they placed next the Ground, upon these was laid a Quantity of dry Moss, and upon the Top of all was strewed a Bundle of green Rushes, which made a very commodious Lodging. These Beds in the ancient Manuscripts are called *Tri Cuilceadha na Feine*, which in *English* signifies the three Beds of the Irish Militia. tri nite ba ndeingsiob an fion 2-leabteaca.

*Campion*, an Author of little Veracity, would impose upon the World by asserting that *Fionn*, the Son of *Cumball*, was known by the Name of *Roamus*; but this is either an ignorant Mistake, or a signal Instance of the Prejudice of this Writer; for the Father of *Cumball* was *Trein More*, the fourth lineal Descendent from *Nuagadh Neacht*, King of *Leinster*; and the Mother of *Fionn* was *Muirn Munchaomb*, the Daughter of *Thady*, the Son of *Nuagatt*, an eminent *Druid* retained in the Family of *Cabaoir More*. *Almhuin*, in the Province of *Leinster*, was the native Country and Inheritance of *Thady*, the Son of *Nuagatt*, upon which Account *Fionn* obtained Possession of *Almhuin* in Right of his Mother; yet *Fionn* was invested with the Country of *Formaoilna Bhfian* (in *Cinfealach*, where *Limerick* in *Leinster* now stands) by the Donation of the King of *Leinster*. tri cuileid na feine 7c.

*Hector Boetius*, another fabulous Writer, in his History of *Scotland*, imposes upon the World, by asserting that *Fionn* was of a gigantick Size, and that he was fifteen Cubits high; but by the ancient Records of the Kingdom (whose Authority will be for ever sacred with me) it appears, that *Fionn* did not exceed the common Proportion of the Men of his Time; and there were many Soldiers in the Militia of *Ireland*, that had a more robust Constitution of Body, and were of a more extraordinary

extraordinary Stature; and the Reason why *Fionn* was the General and the first commanding Officer over the *Irish Militia*, was because his Father and Grandfather enjoyed the same Dignity before him, and had the Honour to be at the Head of these invincible Troops; but upon this Account more especially he had the principal Command of this *standing Army*, as he was a Person of a superior Courage, of great Learning and military Experience, which Accomplishments advanced him in the Esteem of the Soldiery, who thought him worthy to lead them. His uncommon Stature therefore and gigantick Strength are mere Fictions, designed to abuse the World, and to destroy the Credit of those Historians, who treat upon the Affairs of the old *Irish* Government.

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seine an ro  
76.

The constant Number of these *standing Forces* that were quarter'd upon the Kingdom of *Ireland*, were three Battalions, each Battalion consisting of three thousand able Men. But this was the Establishment only in Time of Peace, when there were, no Disturbances at home, or Fear of any Invasions from abroad. But if there were any publick Discontents, or any Apprehensions of a Rebellion or a Conspiracy; if there arose any Contests between the King and his Nobility, or the King found himself under a Necessity to transport a Body of Troops into *Scotland* to assist the *Dailriads*, or upon any Surprise or Difficulties of the State, *Fionn* increased his Forces to the Number of seven Battalions, which was Strength sufficient to assist his Friends the *Dailriads* in *Scotland*, and to defend the Kingdom of *Ireland* from the Attacks of domestick or foreign Enemies.

It has been observed, that *Fionn* was the Commander in Chief of the *Irish Militia*, but he had several inferior Officers, who, in their Degrees, exercised an Authority under him by his Commission. Every Battallion or Legion was commanded by a *Colonel*; every hundred Men were under the Conduct of a *Captain*; an Officer in the Nature of a *Lieutenant* had fifty under him, and a *Serjeant*, resembling the *Decurio* of the *Romans*, was set over five and twenty; for when an hundred of their *Militia* were drawn out by ten in a Rank, there was an Officer appointed over every ten of them, commonly called the Commander of *nine*; and therefore when the Chronicles of *Ireland* make mention

of *Fear Comblan Cead*, or *Fear Comblan Caoguid* (which signifies a Man able to engage with an hundred, and another to fight with fifty) it is not to be understood as if the first was able to encounter an hundred himself, and conquer them with his own Hand, or the other had the Courage to engage with fifty, and come off with Victory; the Meaning is, that such an Officer had the Command of an hundred Men, with whom he would fight Hand to Hand with the same Number of Enemies, and that an Officer, who had fifty under him, would engage with any fifty that opposed him, with their Commander at the Head of them.

Every Soldier that was received into the Militia of *Ireland* by *Fionn*, was obliged, before he was enroll'd, to subscribe to the following Articles: The first, that when he was disposed to marry, he would not follow the mercenary Custom of insisting upon a Portion with a Wife, but, without Regard to her Fortune, he should choose a Woman for her Virtue, her Courtesy, and good Manners. The second, that he would never offer Violence to a Woman, or attempt to ravish her. The third, that he would be charitable and relieve the poor, who desired Meat or Drink, as far as his Abilities would permit. The fourth, that he would not turn his Back or refuse to fight with nine Men of any other Nation that set upon him, and offered to fight him.

It must not be supposed that every Person, who was willing to be enlisted in the *Militia of Ireland*, would be accepted; for *Fionn* was very strict in his Inquiry, and observed these Rules in filling up the Number of his Troops, which were exactly followed by his Successors in Command, when they had Occasion to recruit their Forces.

He ordained therefore, that no Person should be enlisted or received into the Service in the Congregation or Assembly of *Visneach*, or in the celebrated *Fair of Tailtean* or at *Feas Teambrach*, unless his Father and Mother and all the Relations of his Family would stipulate and give proper Security, that not one of them should attempt to revenge his Death upon the Person that slew him, but to leave the Affair of his Death wholly in the Hands of his Fellow Soldiers, who would take Care to do him Justice as the Case required; and it was ordained likewise, that the Relations of a Soldier of this

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*Militia,*

*Militia* should not receive any Damage or Reproach for any Misbehaviour or Offence committed by him.

The second Qualification for Admittance into these *standing* Forces was, that no one should be received unless he had a *poetical* Genius, and could compose Verses, and was well acquainted with the *Twelve Books* of Poetry.

Gras Gair-  
Seas do  
euntdoi 3  
Gae don don  
fein yul do  
Glacree  
ran bpein e.

The third Condition was, that he should be a perfect Master of his Weapons, and able to defend himself against all Attacks; and to prove his Dexterity in the Management of his Arms, he was placed in a plain Field, encompassed with green Sedge that reached above his Knee; he was to have a Target by him and a hazel Stake in his Hand of the Length of a Man's Arm. Then nine experienced Soldiers of the *Militia* were drawn out, and appointed to stand at the Distance of nine Ridges of Land from him, and to throw all their Javelins at him at once; if he had the Skill with his Target and his Stake, to defend himself, and come off unhurt, he was admitted into the Service; but if he had the Misfortune to be wounded by one of those Javelins he was rejected as unqualified, and turn'd off with Reproach.

A fourth Qualification was, that he should run well, and in his Flight defend himself from his Enemy; and to make a Tryal of his Activity he had his Hair plaited, and was obliged to run thro' a Wood with all the *Militia* pursuing him, and was allowed but the Breadth of a Tree before the rest at his setting out; if he was overtaken in the Chase, or received a Wound before he had ran thro' the Wood, he was refused as too sluggish and unskilful, to fight with Honour among those valiant Troops.

It was required, in the fifth Place, that whoever was a Candidate for Admission into the *Militia*, should have a strong Arm, and hold his Weapons steady, and if it was observed that his Hands shook, he was rejected.

The sixth Requisite was, that when he ran through the Wood his Hair should continue tied up, during the Chase; if it fell loose, he could not be received.

The seventh Qualification was, to be so swift and light of Foot, as not to break a rotten Stick by treading upon it.

The Eighth Condition was, that none should have the Honour of being inrolled among the *Irish Militia*,  
that



that was not so active as to leap over a Tree as high as his Forehead, or could not, by the Agility of his Body, stoop easily under a Tree that was lower than his Knees.

The ninth Condition required was, that he could, without stopping or lessening his Speed, draw a Thorn out of his Foot.

The tenth and last Qualification was, to take an Oath of Allegiance to be true and faithful to the King, and an Oath of Fidelity to the commanding Officer of the Army. These were the Terms required for Admission among these brave Troops, which, so long as they were exactly insisted upon, the *Militia of Ireland* were an invincible Defence to their Country, and were a Terror to Rebels at home and Enemies abroad.

It happened, that when *Cormac* was the Monarch of *Ireland*, some of the principal Gentry of the Province of *Ulster* transported themselves into *Scotland*, and committed great Hostilities upon the Coasts; and in some of their Incurfions, they had the Fortune to surprise the beautiful *Ciarnuit*, Daughter of the King of the *Picts*. With this fair Prize and other valuable Booty they returned into *Ireland*. The Beauty of this captiv'd Lady could not long be concealed, and came at length to the Ears of *Cormac*; and, before he saw her, he was so transported with the Relation of her Charms, that he demanded her of the Gentry that brought her out of her own Country, and accordingly she was presented to the King, who fitted up an Apartment for her in his Palace, and valued her beyond all the Ladies of his Court.

But her Beauty, and the Place she had in the King's Favour, occasioned her many Enemies; but the Queen resolved upon Revenge for robbing her of her Husband's Love, and soon found Means to put her Designs in Execution. The Queen of *Cormac* at this Time was *Eithne Ollambdha*, the Daughter of *Dunluing*, and being a Lady of great Spirit, she resented the Indignity she had received in so violent a Manner, that she boldly told the King, that unless he would deliver into her Hands this Mistress of his, she would leave the Court, and separate herself from him for ever. *Cormac*, unwilling to incense his injured Queen, and to drive her to Extremities, resigned the fair *Ciarnuit* into her Hands, whom she used with great  
Severity;

Severity; and, as a Punishment, obliged her every Day to grind with a *Quern* or *Hand-mill* nine Quarters of Corn. But, notwithstanding the close Confinement she was under, the King could not give up his Passion, but found Means to be admitted privately where she lay, and got her with Child. Her Slavery was continued by the Queen, who insisted on the Quantity of Meal; but when she grew big, she became weak and faint, and unable to perform the Task enjoined her. In this Distress, upon the first Opportunity, she applied herself to the King, and complained so tenderly of her Misfortunes, that he dispatched a Messenger to *Scotland*, who brought over with him one of the most expert Carpenters of the Kingdom. This skillful Mechanick in a short Time erected a *Mill*, by which Means the unfortunate *Ciarnuit* was delivered from her daily Servitude enjoined her by the Queen, as a just Revenge for defrauding her of the Esteem and Affections of the King. This Transaction continues upon Record in the Verses of an ancient Poet in this Manner.

read in mss.  
on 45 60 p.  
made 7c.

*The lovely Ciarnuit forc'd away,  
And taken Captive by her Enemies,  
Was made a Present to the Irish Monarch,  
The royal Cormac, who, by Beauty's Charms  
Subdued, esteem'd her Mistress of his Heart.  
The jealous Queen, with keen Resentment fir'd,  
Demanded, as Revenge, the Scottish Lady  
To be delivered to her Mercy; the King  
Unwillingly consented; for the fair  
Unfortunate Ciarnuit was obliged  
To turn a Mill, and, with her tender Hands,  
To grind of Corn nine Quarters every Day.  
In this Distress, and in her poor Apartment,  
The King would privately be introduced,  
Till she grew big with Child, and then unable  
To undergo the Slavery of the Mill,  
She cried, and humbly beg'd her royal Lover  
To send to Scotland for a skilful Workman,  
Who, by his Art, could make a proper Engine  
To grind without her Hand; the King complied;  
The Workman came, and, by his cunning Skill,  
He made a Mill, and eas'd her of her Pains.*

In the Reign of *Cormac*, King of *Ireland*, it was that the famous *Fiottball* flourished, who was the *Chief Justice* of the Kingdom. This learned Judge had a Son, whose Name was *Flathbrighe*; and when he was upon his Death Bed, he sent for his Son, who was a Person of great Learning, and every Way accomplished; and when he had given him his Blessing in the most affectionate Manner, he obliged him by the Bonds of his Duty to observe four Particulars, that would be of great Service in the future Management of his Life: The first, that he should not undertake the Charge of educating and maintaining a King's Son: The second, that he should not impart any *Secrets* of Importance to his Wife: The third, that he should not advance, nor be concerned in promoting a *Clown*, or a Person of low Birth and ill Manners: The fourth was not to admit his *Sister* into the Government of his Affairs, nor trust her with the Keeping of his House, nor of his Money. These were the Injunctions the expiring Father laid upon his Son, who, after his Decease, resolved to make Tryal whether it was of any Consequence to observe them, and whether any signal Misfortune would attend the Breach of them.

Accordingly he took upon himself the Education of a Son of *Cormac*, King of *Ireland*, and engaged to breed him up. When the Child was able to go of it self, and to speak intelligibly, *Flathbrighe* carried him into a Wood, and committed him to the Care of one of his Herdsmen, an honest Man, and whose Fidelity he could confide in: He commanded him strictly to conceal the Child in the most retired Place of the Wood, and admit no Body to the Sight of him, unless he sent him a certain Token, which was the Sign that he might safely trust the Person to see him. When he had thus provided for the Security of the Child, he returned home, and pretended to be exceedingly sorrowful and dejected, as if some Misfortune of Consequence had befallen him; his Wife observing him seemingly oppressed with Grief, inquired into the Reason of his Sorrow, which would be eased by being discovered to her, who willingly would endure a Part with him in his Sufferings. He gave her no Answer at first, which rais'd her Curiosity the more, and she repeated her Importunity, and more passionately intreated him to communicate to her the Cause of his Affliction; at

last he complied, but upon this Condition that she would never discover what he told her to any Creature living; she immediately bound her self to *Secrecy* by a solemn Oath, and he, upon this Security, informed her that the Reason of his Melancholy was, that he had unfortunately kill'd the young Prince committed to his Care. The Woman, forgetting the Obligation of her Oath, and the Duty she owed her Husband, immediately cried out, and, basely breaking her Trust, she called to the Servants of the Family to seize upon their Master, who was a Murtheter and a Traytor; for he had destroyed the King's Son. The Servants, surpris'd at the Cruelty of the Action, and urg'd by the Instigation of their Mistress, seized upon *Flaithbrighe*, and when they had bound him, they deliver'd him into the Hands of Justice.

In this Manner were the two first Injunctions of the Father violated by the Son, in order to make Tryal of the Force and Importance of them. The third he proved by advancing the Son of one of his Shepherds, who was an illiterate Person, and of no Education, and promoting him to a good Estate and an honourable Employment: The fourth he made an Experiment of by committing, after his Father's Decease, the greatest Part of his Fortune to his Sister, and trusting her with the principal Management of all his Affairs.

*Flaithbrighe* was brought to his Tryal for the Murther of the King's Son, and being convicted by the Evidence of his Wife, to whom he had confessed the Fact, he was cast for his Life, and by express Sentence from the Judge, he was condemn'd to die; and the most violent Enemy in his Misfortunes, was the ungrateful Son of the Shepherd, whom he had rais'd from Poverty into Plenty and Grandeur; for he thought when *Flaithbrighe* was executed, he should have an Opportunity of purchasing his forfeited Estate of the King, which he was able to do by the great Riches he had confer'd upon him by his Benefactor, whose Life he resolv'd if possible to destroy. The unfortunate *Flaithbrighe* thought that a Sum of Money, if well applied among the Courtiers, might procure him a Reprieve; and therefore he sent a Messenger to his Sister, to desire she would send him the *Bags* he had intrusted her with; for his Life was in the utmost Danger, and if she denied him, he was sure to be executed in a few Days. The Sister  
most

most inhumanly refused, adding this Falshood to her Cruelty, that she never received any Money from him, and wondered at the Insolence of his Demand. *Flaithrighe*, astonished at this Reply, and the Time of his Execution approaching, he desired, before his Death, to be admitted into the King's Presence; for he had a Matter of great Importance to communicate. His Request being granted, he humbly ask'd Pardon for reporting that the young Prince was dead, and assured him that his Information was false; for he was alive and in perfect Health; and, says he, if your Majesty distrust the Truth of this, I will immediately send for him, and he shall appear safe before you. The King was surpris'd at this Discovery, and commanded him to dispatch a Messenger for the Youth, and bring him instantly to Court; threatening him withal, that if this Account of his proved false, he should be loaded with Irons, and suffer the most ignominious and cruel Death.

The Prisoner, as he was ordered, sent to his Herdsman, and gave the Messenger the Sign agreed upon, whereby he was sure that the Prince would be delivered. The Child was soon brought to Court, and into the Presence of the King, where his Foster Father was: And when the Youth beheld him fettered as a Malefactor, he cried out, and humbly intreated the King, that the Irons should be taken off. *Flaithrighe* was immediately released, and was received into the King's Favour as a Testimony of his Innocence.

*Cormac*, being fully satisfied when he saw his Son alive, demanded of *Flaithrighe*, what was the Reason of this Behaviour of his, and for what Ends he brought himself under those Difficulties, as to suffer Imprisonment and Fetters, and to bring his Life into the utmost Hazard? He answer'd, that his Design was only to prove the Importance of four notable Injunctions, that his Father laid upon him before his Decease; The first, says he, was, that I should not take upon me the Care of educating, and breeding up the Son of a King, because, if the Youth comes to Misfortune or dies, the Life of the Foster Father is in the King's hand, and he lies wholly at his Mercy. The second was not to commit a secret to a Woman, because the whole Sex are talkative and unguarded, and oftentimes bring the Life and Honour of their Husbands into Danger, by discovering what they are bound by the most solemn Obligations



to conceal: The third Command was, that I should not be concern'd in advancing the Son of a Clown of mean Extract and low Education; because he soon forgets the Benefactor that rais'd him from Poverty and Rags into Posterity and Honour; his Principle is Ingratitude, and he often contrives the Destruction of his Friend, in order to conceal the Lowness of his Descent and the Baseness of his Original. The last Injunction was, that I should not commit the Keeping of my Wealth, or any valuable Part of my Fortune into the Hand of my Sister, and for an infallible Reason, because it is the Practice of Women to make a Prey of what they get into their Hands, and what they receive only in Trust, they understand as a Gift, they rifle their nearest Relations, and, if Opportunity offers, will plunder them of all they have.

do hobru- It was an establish'd Law in the Reign of *Cormac*,  
 geadi le lín King of *Ireland*, that every Monarch of the Kingdom  
 éomraie de- should be attended by these ten Officers: He was ob-  
 itnaing do- liged to have always in his Retinue a *Lord*, a *Judge*,  
 bert do- a *Lord*, a *Judge*,  
 gnae cion- an *Augur* or *Druid*, a *Physician*, a *Poet*, an *Antiquary*,  
 éuoll a gae a *Musician*, and three *Stewards* of his Household. The  
 ab ríog ei- Duty of the *Lord* was to be a Companion for the King,  
 nioh. and to entertain him with suitable Discourse and Conver-  
 sation: The Office of the *Judge* was to administer Jus-  
 tice to the Subjects, to publish the Laws and Customs  
 of the Country, and to preside in Courts of Judicature  
 under the King, who was generally present in those  
 Assemblies. The Function of the *Druid* was to regulate  
 the Concerns of Religion, and the Worship of the Gods,  
 to offer Sacrifices, to divine and foretel for the Use and  
 Advantage of the King and Country. The *Physician*  
 was to preserve the Health of the King, the Queen, and  
 the royal Family, and to administer Medicines upon  
 proper Occasions. The *Poet* was to transmit to Po-  
 sterity the heroic and memorable Actions of famous  
 Men, of whatsoever Quality they were; to compose  
 Satires upon Debauchery and Vice; and to lash the  
 Immorality of Courtiers and inferior Persons with-  
 out Partiality or Affection. The Office of the *Anti-  
 quary* was to preserve the Genealogies of the Kings of  
*Ireland*, to correct the regal Tables of Succession, and  
 to deliver down the Pedigrees of every collateral Branch  
 of the royal Family. He had likewise Authority to su-  
 pervise the Genealogies of the Gentry and other pri-  
 vate

vate Persons, and enter them into the publick Records of the Kingdom. The *Musician* was to divert the King with his Instruments, to sing before him, when he was pleased to throw off publick Cares, and to ease his Mind from the Business of the State. The three principal *Stewards* of the Household were to provide for his Table, to wait upon the King when he dined or eat in publick, and to govern the inferior Officers and Servants of the Kitchen, and when they offended to inflict proper Punishments upon them.

These Regulations and Orders were observed strictly for many Ages by the successive Monarchs of the Kingdom, from the Reign of *Cormac*, to the Death of *Bryen*, the Son of *Kennedy*, without any Alteration. But when the Kings of *Ireland* were received into the Christian Faith, they dismissed the *Druid*, who was a *Pagan*, and admitted into his Place a *Christian Priest* as a Confessor, whose Business was to instruct the King in the Principles of his holy Faith, and to assist him in his Devotions. These ancient Customs of the *Irish* Kings are confirmed by the Testimony of an eminent Poet of great Antiquity, who upon this Occasion has left these Lines.

*Ten royal Officers, for Use and State,  
Attend the Court, and on the Monarch wait,  
A Nobleman, whose virtuous Actions grace  
His Blood, and add new Glories to his Race.  
A Judge, to fix the Meaning of the Laws,  
To save the poor, and right the injured Cause.  
A grave Physician, by his artful Care,  
To ease the sick, and weaken'd Health repair,  
A Poet to applaud, and boldly blame,  
And justly to give Infamy or Fame;  
For without him the freshest Laurels fade  
And Vice to dark Oblivion is betray'd.*

*The next Attendant was a faithful Priest,  
Prophetick Fury roll'd within his Breast;  
Full of his God he tells the distant Doom  
Of Kings unborn, and Nations yet to come;  
Daily he worships at the holy Shrine,  
And pacifies his Gods with Rites divine,  
With constant Care the Sacrifice renews,  
And anxiously the panting Entrails views.*

*To touch the Harp, the sweet Musician bends,  
And both his Hands upon the Strings extends;*

B b b b

The



*The softest Sound flows from each warbling String,  
Soft as the Breezes of the breathing Spring,  
Musick has Pow'r the Passions to controul,  
And tunes the harsh Disorders of the Soul.*

*The Antiquary, by his Skill, reveals  
The Race of Kings, and all their Offspring tells.  
The spreading Branches of the royal Line,  
Trac'd out by him, in lasting Records shine.*

*Three Officers in lower Order stand,  
And when he dines in State attends the King's Command.*

Commae dū-  
raōdo de-  
cib fallra.

*Cormac*, the Monarch of *Ireland*, it must be observed, was a Prince of great Virtue and strict Morality, and very exact in the Worship of the Deity, as far as the Light of Nature informed him; and his Piety and Devotion found Acceptance and a Reward from above; for the merciful God was pleased to deliver him from the Obscurity of Pagan Darknesh, and enlighten'd him with the true Faith of the Gospel. He was converted seven Years before his Death, during which Time he refused to adore his false Deities, and, instead of bowing to his Idols, he did Homage as a devout Christian to the true God; so that this Prince was the third Person who believed in the Faith of *Christ*, before the Arrival of *St. Patrick* in *Ireland*. The Names of these Converts were *Connor*, the Son of *Neasa*, who was inform'd of the Sufferings of *Christ* and the Redemption of Mankind by *Bacrach* a Pagan *Druid*; *Moran*, the Son of *Maoim*, the second, and *Cormac*, King of *Ireland*.

ofāgāb  
teamā dē  
amāe i. eā-  
bne liffē-  
dēā.

This Prince kept his Court, as did most of his Predecessors in the Throne of *Ireland*, at the royal Palace of *Tara*, till he had the Misfortune to lose his Eye by *Aongus Gaotbbhuailteach*, as before mentioned; and from that Time till he died he lived in a very mean House, covered with Thatch at *Anachull* in *Ceananus*. The Reason of retiring from his Court was, because the principal Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom supposed it to be a bad Omen for the Happiness of the publick, if a King, who had any Blemish upon him, should reside in the royal Palace of *Tara*, and therefore *Cormac* resigned the Government to his Son, whose Name was *Cairbre Liffeachair*, and contented himself with that ordinary House at *Anachull*, which was not far from the Court. In this contented Privacy he spent the Remainder of his Life; and being a Prince of great Learning,

Learning, and an accomplished Statesman, here it was that he drew up that admirable Treatise, called *Advice to Kings*, for the Use of his Son, as was observed before; and during his Retreat from publick Business he banished all Rites of Superstition and Idolatry, and improved himself in the Worship and Knowledge of the true God.

In those Pagan Times, one of the Idols of the ancient *Irish* was a *golden Calf*, and it happened, that when *Cormac* was employing himself in Devotion in his thatch'd House, some of the *Druids* that belong'd to the Court, brought this Image into his Presence, and, as their Custom was, fell down before it, and adored it with divine Worship; but the King continued his Addresses to the true God, and would not comply with their Idolatry: *Maoilgeann*, who was the principal of these Pagan Priests, perceiving that the King acted in Contempt of their holy Rites, demanded of him the Reason why he did not comply with the Religion of his Ancestors, and pray to the golden Calf, and conform to the establish'd Worship? The King answered, that it was beneath the Dignity of a rational Being to adore a Brute, which he determined never to do, much less a Log of Wood fashioned by the Workman's Hand, who was no more able to make a God than to create himself, and therefore he would direct his Addresses to that supreme Being who formed the Carpenter and the Tree superstitiously converted into a God. The *Druid* then conveyed away the Image, and soon after brought it to the King, and presented it before him dress'd with the most magnificent Attire, and deck'd with Jewels, and confidently demanded, whether he would not address himself to a Deity so splendidly array'd, and of so majestick Appearance? *Cormac* replied, that it was in vain to tempt him into Idolatry; for he was resolved to pay no divine Homage but to the one supreme God, the Creator of the Heavens and of the Earth, and of a Place of Punishment for the Wicked, who corrupt his Worship, and disobey his Laws. This Resolution of the King, it is supposed, cost him his Life; for the very same Day in the Evening a Salmon was provided for his Supper, which the Sorcery and magical Art of this Pagan Priest had so enchanted, that a Bone of the Fish stuck in the King's Throat, and choak'd him. Other Authorities assert, that as the

King was at Supper, eating the Fish, a Number of infernal Fiends were raised by the Charms of the *Druid Maolgeann*, who set upon the King at Supper, and strangled him. But before he expired he gave Orders to his Servants not to bury him in the royal Sepulture of the *Irish* Monarchs; for he would not have his Dust mix with that of his Pagan Predecessors.

Aléacab  
étypp éon-  
maic anyo.

His Commands were obeyed, and another Place appointed for his Interment; but as his Body was carrying upon a *Bier*, after the Custom of the Country, the River *Boyne* was so enlarged, and overflowed its Banks in so wonderful a Manner, by the wicked Arts of these infernal Spirits, that the Bearers could not attempt to pass over the Chancel; for these Furies of Hell would not admit that his Body should be buried in a Temple devoted to their Service, because he refused to conform to their abominable Rites; and introduced a Way of Worship in Opposition to the established Religion. And this Stratagem these cursed Spirits made use of three several Times, in Order to prevent the Interment of the Body. But the Servants, intrusted with the Care of the Funeral, did not desist from their Duty; for notwithstanding these dreadful Discouragements, they made a fourth Attempt to carry the royal Corpse over the River. But the Body was whirl'd out of their Hands by a Hurricane, and dropt into the Stream, which was so rapid, that it roll'd it along to *Ros na Roighe*, where it was wash'd off from the Carriage; and upon this Account that Part of the River *Boyne* is distinguished by the Name of *Athsuaid* to this Day; for *Ath* in the *Irish* Language signifies a *Ford*, and the Word *Fuad* signifies a *Bier*, which being joined, are pronounced *Athsuaid*. The Body, when it was found, was taken up, and solemnly buried at *Rosnariogh*.

A long Time after this Action (as the Chronicles of Ireland inform us) the Head of this Monarch was found by St. Columcille, (or, as modern Authors call him, St. Columba) who buried it; and in the same Place he continued till he had celebrated thirty Masses for his departed Soul, which gave Occasion to the erecting of a Church over the Grave which remains to this Day.

In those Times there were two remarkable Temples or Burying-places, where most of the *Irish* Monarchs were inter'd. The Names of these royal Repositories were  
*Brugh*



*Brugh na Boine and Roilic na Riogh*, near *Cruachan*, in the Province of *Conacht*; but the latter of these was of principal Note, and contained the Bodies of most of the ancient Kings, as the learned *Torne Eigis*, an eminent Poet, gives us to understand in the following Verses.

*This Sepulture preserves the royal Dust  
Of the renowned Monarchs of the Isle.  
Here Dathy lies (whose Acts were sung by Fame)  
Near Cruachan's pensive Walls; close by whose Side,  
For great Exploits in War and equal Arms  
Dreaded, Dungalach sleeps; who, from his Foe,  
Wrested by greater Might, to own his Sway,  
Numbers of captiv'd Hosts in Fetters bound,  
Witnessing Thralldom. Near the mournful Shade  
These weeping Marbles cast, are also laid  
The great Remains of Conn, who sway'd with Fame  
Hibernia's royal Scepter; nor deny  
To hold the kindred Dust, in Love once join'd  
Of Tuathal and Tumultach, who their Sire,  
While mortal, Eochaidh Feidhlioch own'd;  
He too, great Parent of three Sons as brave,  
Mingles his Dust with those he once inspir'd  
With happy Life; nor does the Grave refuse,  
To keep the breathless Dust, by Death disjoin'd,  
Of Eochaidh Aireamh, who his Fate  
Ow'd to Mormaol's Sword, with Blood distain'd.  
Nor could thy Beauty, lovely once, secure  
Thee, Clothro, or from Death's subduing Arm  
Guard thy all-conquering Eyes, whose Lance destroy'd  
With thee in Blood alike and Charms allied  
Thy Sisters Meidbh and Muraig; here entomb'd,  
They rest in Silence, near three royal Queens  
(Forgetful now in Death they ever reign'd)  
Eire, Fodhla, Banbha, from the scepter'd Line  
Sprung of the Tuatha de Danans, far renown'd  
For dire enchanting Arts and magick Pow'r.  
In this repository sleep in Peace  
Cearmoda's royal Sons, three warlike Names;  
While Life and Vigor could their Arm inspire;  
Now lifeless each, nor more intent on Fame.  
Here valiant Midhir rests to Death a Prey,  
While the still Monument seems proud to hold  
The Relicts of great Caol and Ugaine,  
Mixt with the Brother Dust, which lies entomb'd,  
Of Cobhthach and Badhbhcha, who in happier Times  
Were born, now sleep near Oilioll's princely Urn.*

~  
A. D. 253.

*Eochaidh Gunain* succeeded in the Throne of *Ireland*; he was the Son of *Feig*, Son of *Domachaidh*, Son of *Breasal*, Son of *Fionchadhá*, Son of *Fiachadh Fionn*, (from whom *Duibhfiath* obtained its Name) Son of *Dhubhaig*, Son of *Deithfin*, Son of *Sin*, Son of *Rosin*, Son of *Airndill*, Son of *Maine*, Son of *Forga*, Son of *Feargus*, Son of *Oilioll*, Son of *Fiachadh Fearmara*, Son of *Aongus Tuirmbeach of Tara*, a Prince descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*. He was Monarch of the Island one Year, and was slain by *Lugbaidh Feirtre*.

A. D. 254.

*Cairbre Liffeachair*, the Son of *Cormac*, Son of *Art*, Son of *Conn*, the Hero of the *hundred Battels*, succeeded and governed the Kingdom seven and twenty Years. He was distinguished by the Name of *Cairbre Liffeachair*, because he was nursed near the Banks of the River *Liffe* in *Leinster*: The Mother of this Prince was *Eithne Ol-lambdha*, the Daughter of *Dunluing*, the Son of *Eana Madh*; and he was slain by *Simeon*, the Son of *Cirb*, who came from the Confines of *Cource*, or the Borders of *Leinster*, in the Battel of *Gabbra*, that was fought between this Monarch and the *Militia* of the Kingdom, who took up Arms against him: The Reason of this Rebellion and the Engagement that followed it is recorded in this Manner.

oo tñt eñ  
bne liffeca-  
eñ deacat  
Eabha.

There was a Lady, the Daughter of *Fionn*, the General of the *Irish Militia*, whose Name was *Samuir*, and her Father bestowed her upon *Cormac Cas*, Son of *Oilioll Olum*, by whom she had two Sons who were called *Tinne* and *Conla*. Upon the Account of this Relation it was, that *Modh Corb*, the Son of *Cormac Cas* kept, as his Confident, his Uncle *Oisín*, the Son of *Fionn* and *Clanna Baoisgne*, expressly contrary to the Consent and Order of *Cairbre Liffeachair* and *Aodh Caomb*, Son of *Garuidh Glundubb* of *Clanna Morna*. At this Time, it must be observed, that *Clanna Morna* had the Authority to quarter and billet the *Militia* of the Kingdom, who were in a State of Mutiny and Rebellion against *Fionn* and *Clanna Baoisgne*, and had been so for seven Years before. For this Reason *Clanna Morna* attempted to persuade *Cairbre Liffeachair* and the Provincialists of *Ireland* to re-establish *Modh Corb* in the Throne of *Munster*, from a Prospect that *Clanna Baoisgne* would be expelled the Province; which was the true Occasion of the Battel, wherein this Monarch lost his Life.

eland ba-  
oifgine ne-  
am rñal do  
Rioñ elñioñ  
7 eland  
Miofne ne-  
am rñal  
oñioñ.

*Fathach Airgbeach*, and *Fathach Cairptbeach*, the two Sons of *Maccon*, Son of *Macniadh*, Son of *Luigbeach*, descended from the Posterity of *Ith*, the Son of *Breogan*, possessed themselves of the Government, but their Reign was short; for they did not govern a whole Year before they were slain: *Fathach Cairptbeach* fell by the Sword of his Brother *Fathach Airgbeach*, but he did not long survive this Fratricide; for he was soon dethron'd by the *Militia* of the Kingdom, who killed him in the Battel of *Ollarbha*.

*Fiachadh Sreabhtuine* was the succeeding Monarch; *A. D. 282.* he was the Son of *Cairbre Liffeachair*, Son of *Cormac Ufada*, derived from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and sat upon the Throne thirty Years, but fell at last by the Sword of the three *Colla's* in the bloody Battel of *Dubhchomar*. This Prince obtained in Marriage *Aoise*, the Daughter of the King of *Gall Gaodhal*, by whom she had a Son call'd *Muireagbach Tireach*. He was known by the Name of *Fiachadh Sreabhtuine*, because he was bred up, and had his Education in *Dun Sreabhtinne* in the Province of *Conacht*.

To enlighten this Part of the History, as far as the Ruins of Time will give Leave, it is proper to take Notice of the Reason that gave Occasion to this Battel of *Dubhchomar*, which stands recorded in that valuable Record the *Psalter of Cashel*; and likewise some Account should be given of the Genealogies that belong to the Relations of the *Colla's*, which *Fiachadh Sreabhtuine* Son of *Cairbre Liffeachair* divided, *Clanna na Gcolla* and the *Oirgiallaidh* from *Clanna Neill* and the Posterity of the same Family in the Province of *Conacht*. This Prince *Fiachadh Sreabhtuine*, we have observed, was the Son of *Cairbre Liffeachair*, and was the Grandfather of *Eochaidh Muighmeodhain*, Son of *Muireadhbach Tireach*, Son of *Fiachadh Sreabhtuine*; and from this Prince *Muireadhbach* descended *Clanna Neill*, and those of the same Tribe in the Province of *Conacht*. *Eochaidh Dubh-lein*, the Son of *Cairbre Liffeachair* was likewise Brother to *Fiachadh Sreabhtuine*: This *Eochaidh* we find had three Sons, who were distinguished by the Title of the three *Colla's*, from whom descended *Ui Mac Vais*, *Ui Criomthann*, and *Mogh Drona*. The proper Names of these three Brothers call'd the *Colla's* were *Cairioll Muireadhbach* and *Aodh* and this we understand by the Testimony

*Gaodhal na  
colla le  
fiada rre-  
abhtine.*

mony of an ancient Poet, who has transmitted the Account to us in these Lines.

*Three Princes once the Glory of the Isle,  
Known by the Name of the three warlike Colla's  
Were Sons of Eochaidh; and in Battel slew  
The Irish Monarch, for heroic Deeds  
Renown'd, and seiz'd upon the Irish Sceptre;  
These Brothers are in ancient Records call'd  
Aodh Muireadhach and Cairioll,  
Or for Distinction otherwise express'd.  
Cairioll, Colla Uais, Aodha, Colla Mean;  
And Muireadhach Colla da Chrioch,*

do fine nd  
colla mon-  
dal 12105  
e11107.

The Wife of *Eochaidh Dubhlein*, was *Oilean* the Daughter of the King of *Scotland*, whose Glory it was to be the Mother of these three martial Princes the three *Colla's*, who entering into a Conspiracy against their native Prince *Fiachadh Sreabbthuine*, by the Success of their Treason, in a decisive Battel wrested the Sovereignty out of his Hands, and put an End to his Life. The true Occasion of this Rebellion is recorded in this Manner.

*Fiachadh Sreabbthuine*, the *Irish* Monarch, had a Son whose Name was *Muirreadbach Tireach*. This young Prince soon discovered a military Genius, and obtain'd that Experience in the Art of War, that his Father, convinc'd of his Bravery and Abilities, made him *Generalissimo* of all his Forces, and delivered into his Hand the absolute Command of his Armies; for at that Time the King never exposed himself at the Head of his Forces, his royal Life being of that Importance as not to be hazarded upon the uncertain Issues of a Battel. Upon some Provocations from the King of *Munster*, it was thought necessary to send a strong Body of Troops into that Province, under the Command of *Muirreadbach*, the young Prince. And Fortune, whose Darling he was, followed him in all his Undertakings; for he succeeded in this Expedition beyond his Hopes, and brought away with him a great Number of Captives and an immense Booty. His Father *Fiachadh Sreabbthuine*, King of *Ireland*, was encamped at that Time at *Dubbchomair* near *Tailtean* with a numerous Army; for the three *Colla's*, his Brother's Sons, had rais'd a considerable Body of Troops, and joined the Forces of the King,

King, who, by these Recruits, became formidable, and resolved to do himself Justice upon his Enemies.

And now the Success of the young Prince in the Province of *Munster* was known in the King's Camp, which gave great Satisfaction to his Father; but was not so well received by the three *Colla's*, who envied him the Glory of his Conquests, and therefore conspired to destroy the King, and seize upon the Government; for they apprehended that when the young Prince came to the Throne, he would resent some Indignities he had received from them, and at least banish them the Court, if not take away their Lives. They began therefore to concert Measures in order to execute their Designs; and prevailing upon some Officers of the King's Troops, they thought themselves able, with the Forces they had brought along with them, and this additional Strength, to engage with the *Irish* Army, and give them Battel; and if they came off with Victory, they would be in a Capacity to defeat the Succession of the young Prince, and to seize upon the Crown.

It happened that at this Time the King had a very eminent *Druid* in his Retinue, with whom he consulted upon this Occasion; for he was made sensible of the Treachery of three Brothers, who had separated their Forces from the *Irish* Army, and withdrawn to some Distance with a Design to fall upon the King. The *Druid*, whose Name was *Dubhcbomair*, made use of his Art, and inform'd his Master, that he found it would be of the last Importance to himself and his Family to save the Lives of the three *Colla's*, notwithstanding their Rebellion; for if he destroyed them, the Crown of *Ireland* should not be worn by any of his Posterity, but descend in another Line. The King was somewhat surpris'd at this Reply, but upon Recollection made this gallant Answer, that he would joyfully resign his Life, so that he might secure the Succession to his Descendents, rather than by destroying those three Traitors, be instrumental in fixing the Crown upon the Heads of their Posterity; and arm'd with this Resolution, which added to his natural Bravery, he drew out his Forces, and fell upon the Enemy; but his Destiny and the Prediction of the *Druid* followed him; for he was slain in the Action.



4. D. 315.

longbair na  
eollu an  
ro.

*Colla Uais* obtaining a complete Victory, was proclaimed Monarch of the Kingdom; he was the Son of *Cairbre Liffeachair*, a Descendent from the Posterity of *Heremon*, and supported his Title to the Government four Years. But the lawful Heir *Muirreadbach Tireach*, the Son of the deceased King, kept his Pretensions on Foot, and, with a brave Body of loyal Troops, engaged the Usurper, and his Success was equal to the Justice of his Cause; for he dethron'd him, and drove him out of the Kingdom. He fled for Refuge with his two Brothers to the Court of the King of *Scotland*, where they were hospitably received, and allowed Protection. The Reason that prevailed upon them to fly into that Country, was because they bore a very near Relation to the King; for the Princess *Oilean* was a Daughter of the King of *Scotland*, the Wife of *Eochaidh Dubhlein*, and the Mother of these three ambitious Brothers. This Usurper was distinguished by the Name of *Colla Uais*, as he was of a more noble and martial Disposition than his Brothers; and as he found Means to fix the Crown of *Ireland* upon his Head for some Time, which the other two were so far from accomplishing that they were obliged to leave their Country, and remove into a foreign Land to save their Lives.

A. D. 319. *Muirreadbhach Tireach* succeeded the Usurper; he was the Son of *Fiachadh Sreabhthuine* Son of *Cairbre Liffeachair*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and governed the Kingdom thirty Years; but was at length kill'd by *Caolbhach*, the Son of *Cruin Badhraoi*. The Consort of this Prince was *Muirion*, the Daughter of *Fiachadh*, King of *Cinneal Eoguin*, and the Mother of *Eochaidh Muighmeadhoin*,

The three *Colla's* being expelled the Kingdom of *Ireland*, were forced to fly for Refuge to the King of *Scotland*, who supported them suitable to their Quality, and entred three hundred Soldiers that followed them into the regular Pay of his own Army; for they were a Handful of brave hardy Men, and wonderfully esteem'd by the King for the Comeliness of their Persons and their undaunted Resolution and Courage. The three Brothers continued in *Scotland* for the Space of three Years; and tir'd at length of residing in a strange Land, they called to Mind the Prediction of the *Druid* aforementioned, which foretold that if they fell by the Hand of the King of *Ireland*, the Crown should devolve upon their

their Posterity. They resolved therefore to accomplish this Prophecy at all Hazards, and settle the Succession upon some of their Descendents; and arriving in *Ireland* with no more than nine Persons to attend upon each of them, they directed their March towards the Court with a Design to offer their Lives into the King's Hands, and incense him with Indignation and Revenge to sacrifice them to the *Manes* of his murdered Father. When they came to *Tara* with so small a Guard, they were admitted into the Presence of the King, who, instead of committing them to Prison, or punishing them with immediate Death as Traytors and Rebels, received them courteously, and congratulated their Return into their own Country. He asked them what News there was from *Scotland*, and whether they were not dejected at the melancholy State of their Affairs? They replied, that they were surpris'd at this unexpected Reception, especially since they were the Executioners of his royal Father, which Action sat very uneasy upon their Minds, and gave them the utmost Anguish in Reflecting upon it. The King answered, that Clemency was one of the brightest Jewels in the Crowns of Princes, and therefore he was contented to forgive their past Crimes, and leave them to the Justice of the immortal Gods and the sharp Remorse of their own Minds, which was the most severe Torment that could be inflicted on the guilty; and as a Testimony that they might depend upon the Promise of the King, he conferred upon them very signal Marks of his Favour, he settled a princely Revenue upon them, and made them principal Officers in the Command of his Army.

In these Posts of Trust and Honour they continued for some Time, till the King, either jealous of their Fidelity, or from a Principle of Friendship and Affection, told them, that the Places they enjoy'd, and the Salary attending them, would expire with their Lives; and not descend to their Families; and therefore he recommended to them to consider of some Provision for their Children, which would be left destitute unless they took Care to secure an Estate for them in their Life-time. He assured them they might rely upon the Continuance of his Favour, and as an Evidence of his Esteem, he generously offered them a Number of Troops sufficient to support them in their Attempts, and to make a Conquest

quest of Lands and Estates that would be a Dependence for their Posterity. The Brothers gratefully accepted of the King's Proposal, and desired to know what Country was the most proper for them to invade: The King replied, that the Province of *Ulster* offered formerly such an Indignity to one of their Family, that it demanded full Revenge; his Advice therefore was, that they should enter the Country with Fire and Sword, and have Satisfaction of the Inhabitants for banishing *Cormac*, Son of *Art*, after they had infamously branded him by burning his Beard with a Candle at *Magh Breag*. This injured Prince was forced to fly for Security into *Conacht*, after he had been so inhospitably treated by the King of *Ulster*; at whose Command a Servant held the lighted Torch to his Face; and therefore they had a Right he thought, not only to do themselves Justice upon the People, but to attempt upon the Crown, and seize upon the Government.

Accordingly three the Brothers, supported by a numerous and well disciplined Army, enter'd the Province of *Ulster*, and instead of Opposition from the Inhabitants, they were joined upon their Arrival with a Body of seven thousand Troops, with some of the principal Nobility of the Country at the Head of them, who promised to assist them in their Pretensions, and stand by them with their Lives and Fortunes. This Reinforcement put a good Face upon the Enterprize, and rais'd the Courage of the Brothers, who directed their March towards the *Provincial Army*, and came to *Carn Eochaidh Leathbhearg* in *Fearnuighe*. Here the King of *Ulster* was ready to receive the Invaders, and both Armies engaged; a most desperate and bloody Action it was, and after a sharp Dispute, the three Brothers won the Field. The King rallied his broken Forces, and again offered Battel to the Victors, but without Success; for his Army was routed in seven several Engagements, one Day after another, within the Compass of a Week. The last Dispute ended with a most terrible Slaughter of the King's Troops, and *Feergus Fodba* King of *Eamhain*, was slain. His Army instantly fled, and were persuted with incredible Fury and Bloodshed by the Victors, who covered the Earth with their dead Bodies from *Cara Eochaidh* to *Gleanighe*. By this Time the Swords of the Conquerors were so drench'd and fatigued with the Execution they made, that they were forced

forced to desist, or not a Man of the *Provincial Army* could possibly have escaped.

The three *Collas*, animated with this Victory, returned with their Forces to the Palace of *Eamhain*, where the King of *Ulster* kept his Court: This royal Seat they plundered, and set it on Fire; by which Means, tho' the Fabrick was not wholly consumed, yet it became so ruined and unfit for Service, that it could never recover its former Magnificence, nor be used as a Palace by the Kings of that Province.

The Brothers resolved to make the most of their Success, and made an absolute Conquest of the Countries of *Modernugh*, *Ui Chriomhthain*, and *Ui Mac Uais*: *Colla Mean*, after he had dispossest the Inhabitants, fixed himself in the Possession of *Modarnugh*, *Colla da Chrioch* obtained the Territory of *Chriomhthain*; and *Colla Uais* settled himself in *Mac Uais*. With these Transactions we shall conclude the Reign of *Muireadbach Tireach*, King of Ireland, who was slain by *Caolhbach*, the Son of *Cruin Badhraoi*.

*Caolhbach* was the succeeding Monarch; he was the Son of *Cruin Badhraoi*, Son of *Eacbadh Chobhna*, Son of *Lughdeach*, Son of *Tomchada*, Son of *Feidblim*, Son of *Cas*, Son of *Fiachadh Aruidhe*, Son of *Aongus Gaibion*, Son of *Feargus Foglas*, Son of *Tiobhruide Tireach*, Son of *Breasal*, Son of *Firb*, Son of *Mail*, Son of *Rochruide*, a Descendent from the Posterity of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*. He possessed the Sovereignty one Year, and fell by the Sword of *Eochaidh Moidhmeodhin*; the Mother of this Prince was *Imiaohr*, the Daughter of *Lughdeach*.

*Eochaidh Moidhmeodhin* was the succeeding Monarch; he was the Son of *Muireadbach Tireach*, Son of *Fiachadh Sreabthuine*, a Descendent from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and governed the Island seven Years. This Prince obtained in Marriage for his first Wife *Mung Fionn*, the Daughter of *Fiodburgh*, by whom he had four Sons, *Brian*, *Fiachradh*, *Feargus* and *Oilioll*. After the Decease of this Lady, his second Consort was a *Welsh* Princess, whose Name was *Certhau Cas Dubh*, Daughter of the King of *Wales*, by whom he had a Son, who for his Valour and military Exploits was known by the Name of *Niall of the nine Hostages*. This King was distinguished by the Title of *Eochaidh Moidhmeodhin*, because his Head, and the Features of his Complexion, resembled

bled his Father, but the Size and Shape of his Body was like a common Labourer, whose Name was *Miongadbach*. This Prince was at War with the King of *Leinster*, and the celebrated Battel of *Cruachan Claonta* was fought between him and *Eana Cinséalach*, who had the Government of that Province. In this Engagement a most eminent *Druid*, whose Name was *Ceadmúthach*, that was an Attendant upon the King of *Ireland* was taken Prisoner by the Army of *Leinster*: When the Soothsayer was brought before *Eana Cinséalach*, he asked his Officers how they came to spare the Life of the Priest, and did not put him to the Sword without giving him Quarter? The *Druid*, incensed with this Question, boldly told the King, that whatever came of his Life, he might be assured that he should never fight with Success out of that Field where he then stood. The King was enraged at this Reply, and with a scornful Smile, he instantly thrust his Spear thro' the Captive's Body: The Priest perceiving himself ready to expire, had only Time to assure the King, that the insulting Smile which attended the Thrust that gave him his Death's Wound should be a Reproach to his Posterity, as long as one of them remained alive; for it should give them a *Name* that should not be forgotten. And the Prediction was literally accomplished; for the Family of this Prince was afterwards known by the Name of *Vibh Cinsalach*; the Word *Salach* in the *Irish* Language signifies *foul* or *reproachful*, which is a Character that this royal Line of *Leinster* could never wipe off. This King *Eana Cinsalach* was a fortunate and a martial Prince, and was the most powerful and formidable of any of the petty Princes of the Island; as a Poet of Credit and Antiquity has confirmed in the following Lines.

to teap  
yloine na  
ceinyealac.

*The great Eana, that with Honour fill'd  
The Throne of Munster, and by Victory  
Followed where'er he fought, advanc'd the Glory  
Of the Province; as an annual Tribute rais'd  
An Ounce of Gold on every Village; he forc'd  
From every House in Leathcuin a Tax  
Of three Pence yearly as a just Confession  
Of his imperial Sway; for to withstand*



*His Power and his Commands was certain Death,  
Tho' Rage and Cruelty did never stain  
His royal Breast; adorn'd with numerous Triumphs  
He comes transmitted to Posterity.*

The Psalter of *Cashel*, whose Credit and Authority will admit of no Dispute, has it upon Record, that the aforesaid *Eana*, fought fifteen Battels in *Leath Cuinn*, and came off with Victory in every Engagement.

*Criomthan* sat next upon the Throne of *Ireland*; he A. D. 360. was the Son of *Fiodhuig*, Son of *Daire Cearb*, Son of *Oilioll Flanbeg*, Son of *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, Son of *Eogan More*, Son of *Oilioll Olum*, descended from the Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, and wore the Crown seven-do gab an R:og ro ne- de Alban breatan M- gur na Fidin 076 teen Years. The royal Consort of this Prince was *Fidbeang*, the Daughter of the King of *Conacht*. This Monarch carried his Arms into foreign Nations, and overcame the *Scots*, the *Britains*, and the *French* in several Engagements, and made them Tributaries. A Poet whose Authority is unquestionable, has given this Account in the following Manner.

*The fam'd Criomthan sway'd the Irish Sceptre,  
And dreaded for the Fury of his Arms;  
His Sovereignty extended cross the Seas,  
Unmindful of the Dangers of the Waves,  
And with insuperable Force subdued  
The Scots, the Britains, and the warlike Gauls,  
Who paid him Homage, and confess'd his Sway.*

This renowned Monarch bestowed the Kingdom of *Munster* upon *Connal Eachluath*, who had his Education with him from his Youth: The Donation of this Province to a Stranger was thought unjust by the Posterity of *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, who judg'd it proper to represent to *Connal*, that he was put into Possession of what he had no Right to enjoy; for tho' he was their Kinsman, yet he could have no Pretension to the Crown of *Munster*, so long as the lawful Heir was alive; that the Government of the Province ought lineally to descend to *Corc*, the Son of *Luigdheach*, who descended from the Line of *Fiachadh*; and worthy he was to fill the Throne of his Ancestors, being a Prince of consummate Wisdom and undaunted Bravery. This Remon-do nado eni- omcan R:og of Munster do tonoll eachluat.

Remonstrance had that Influence upon *Conall*, that he was willing to refer the Case of the Succession to proper Arbitrators, that were learned in the Law, and he promised to abide by their Determination. The Matter was debated on both Sides before the Umpires, who came to this Resolution; that *Corc*, the Son of *Lugh-dheach*, should first take Possession of the Government of *Munster*, as he was of the eldest Branch, but the Crown should not descend to his Heirs; for the Succession was limited and settled upon the Posterity of *Cormac Cas*.

The Family of *Fiachadh Muilleathan* agreed to this Award and engaged themselves by Sureties, and the most solemn Securities, that after the Decease of *Corc*, the Crown should devolve upon *Conall Eachluath* if living, or his immediate Heir, without Contest or Disturbance. This Act of Succession was conformable to what *Oilioll Olum* had before established upon the same Account; for he ordained, that the two Families should have an alternate Right to the Crown of *Munster* successively, and the Throne be filled with the lineal Posterity of *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, and the lawful Descendants of *Cormac Cas*.

Upon this Arbitration the just and generous *Conall* resigned the Government of *Munster* into the Hands of *Corc*, who after a short Reign died; and then he reassumed the Crown as his Right according to the Establishment. By this uncommon Act of Equity *Conall* was had in that Esteem by *Criomthan*, King of *Ireland*, that he delivered into his Custody all the Prisoners and Hostages that he brought over with him in Triumph from the Kingdoms of *Britain*, *Scotland*, and *France*; for he thought he could rely upon the Integrity of a Prince, who delivered up the Possession of a Crown that he was able to defend, for no other Reason, but because he had no Right to it, and therefore he thought it would not sit easy upon his Temples. This Transaction is confirmed by a Poem to be found in the *Psalter of Cashel*, composed by that Son of the Muses *Cormac Mac Cuilleahann*.

bradige  
and Rio  
eipion d laim  
conyit.

The Kings of distant Lands were forc'd to own  
The Victor's Power, and to the great *Criomthan*  
Tribute and Homage paid: A worthier Prince  
N'er fill'd a Throne, nor sail'd to foreign Shores.



Unnumbered Captives he in Triumph led  
 And Hostages, the Bonds of true Submission.  
 These Pledges and the Prisoners of his Wars  
 He trusted in the Hands of the brave Conall;  
 Than whom a Prince of more Integrity,  
 And stricter Justice never wore a Crown.  
 This Prince for Arms and martial Skill renown'd  
 Enlarg'd the Bounds of his Command, and ruled  
 With Equity the Countries he had won;  
 He govern'd Fearta Conuill in Feimhin,  
 And Druin Cormaic Ainc, and Dungan.  
 His was the celebrated Seat of Cashel  
 And Maig and Duncarmna.

The King *Criomhthán*, notwithstanding his princely Accomplishments, could not be secure from the villainous Attempts of his own Sister, whose Name was *Mung Fionn*; for she resolv'd to destroy him, and prepared a Dose of Poison for that Purpose, out of a prospect to obtain the Crown for her Son *Brian*, whom she had by *Eochaidh Moighmeoin*. She found Means to administer the Draught, which had its desired Effect; for the King died at *Sliabh Vidhe an Ríogh*, that lies northwards of *Limerick*. But Vengeance close pursued the wicked Executioner, who the more securely to recommend the Dose to the King tasted of it herself, which dispatch'd her at *Inis Dornglas*.

*Niall* distinguish'd by the Name of the *Nine Hostages* A. D. 375. succeeded; He was the Son of *Eochaidh Moighmeodhin*, Son of *Muireadbach Tireach*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and govern'd the Kingdom seven and twenty Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Carthan Casdubh*, Daughter to the King of *Britain*. His first Queen was *Inne* the Daughter of *Lughdbeach*, who was the Relict of *Fiachad*; His second Consort was *Roigneach* by whom he had seven Sons, who are known in History by these Names, *Laoghair*, *Eane*, *Maine*, *Eogan*, two had the Name of *Conall*, and *Cairbry*.

This Prince at the Request of the *Dailriads* in *Scotland*, who were harass'd and oppress'd by the savage *Picts*, transported a numerous Army into that Kingdom to assist them. When he arrived, he changed the old Name of the Country, and call'd it *Scotia* at the Request of the *Dailriads* and the *Scots* themselves; but it was upon Condition, that *Scotland* was to receive the Honour

of that Appellation ; for it was agreed that it should be call'd only *Scotia Minor*, but *Scotia Major* was to be the Name of *Ireland*; and the Occasion of this Name was in Honour and Memory of the Lady *Scota*, the Daughter of *Pharoah Neftonibus* King of *Egypt*, who was Queen to the famous *Gollamb*, otherwise call'd *Milesius* King of *Spain*: From this Monarch the *Dailriads* descended, and therefore they made choice that the Island should be call'd by the Name of *Scotia Major*, rather than *Hibernia* or any other Appellation. The Authority of the learned *Camden* might be insisted upon in Confirmation of this Account; for he asserts in his Chronicle of *Britain*, that *Scotland* was call'd *Scotia Minor*, and *Ireland* *Scotia Major*, and declares that there is no certain Evidence upon Record to prove that the Inhabitants of *Scotland* were known by the Name of *Scots*, before the Time that *Constantine the Great* was Emperor of *Rome*.

This judicious Antiquary very justly calls the *Irish Scotorum Avavi*, the Ancestors of the *Scots*, as an Argument, that the People of *Scotland* were originally derived from the ancient *Irish*; and the same Author proceeds upon the same Subject, and has this Expression, *Scoti ex Hispaniâ in Hiberniam quartâ etate venerunt*. The Scots came from Spain and arrived in Ireland in the fourth Age. To confirm the Testimony of this Writer, *Nemeius*, a Welsh Author of great Credit, agrees with this Opinion, which is so consistent with the *Irish* History, that it cannot be denied.

Albani ro2li-  
bainia do  
bainim dal-  
bainim go  
hain yce  
Neill.

elan brü-  
cur any o.

It is evident from the ancient Records of the Island, that the Country of *Scotland* was known by the Name of *Albain*, till the Reign of *Niall* distinguished by the Title of the *Nine Hostages*; and as the Tribe of the *Dailriada* prevailed, that the Country should be called for the future by the Name of *Scotia*; so they and their Posterity continued there, and enjoyed large Territories for many Ages. The Kingdom of *Scotland* was stiled *Albania* from *Albanactus*, the third Son of *Brutus*, to whom the Country was assigned by Lot, when the Father was making Provision for his Children. This Prince *Brutus*, as *Jeoffry of Monmouth* relates, had three Sons, and their Names were *Leagrus*, *Camber*, and *Albanactus*, to these three he gave proper Settlements; *England* he bestowed upon *Leagrus*, which, after his Name was called *Lagria*; the Territory of *Wales* he conferred upon

his Son *Camber*, called after him *Cambria*; the Country of *Scotland* fell to the Share of *Albanactus*, from whom it obtained the Name of *Albania*, and continues to be called so to this Day.

*Niall*, the *Irish* Monarch, upon some Provocation, carried with him a great Army from *Scotland* into *La-gria* or *England*, and from thence transported them in a numerous Fleet into *Armorica*, now called *Bretagne* in the Kingdom of *France*. These Troops made great Devastations in the Country; for they met with little Opposition, and plundering the Inhabitants, they returned with rich Spoils and valuable Booty. But the most considerable Part of their Prey consisted of two hundred Children descended from the most noble Blood in the Province, whom they brought home with them; and among the rest was *St. Patrick*, a Youth of about sixteen Years of Age; his two Sisters, whose Names were *Lupida* and *Darerca*, were likewise carried into Captivity, and the rest of the Number were of the first Rank.

Many are the Authorities that might be urged to prove, that the Kingdom of *Ireland* was called *Scotia*, and that the Inhabitants were known by the Name of *Cineadh Scuit*. Among others *Jonas* the Abbot, speaking of *St. Collum Cill*, in his second Chapter has this Expression, *Columbanus qui Columba vocatur in Hiberniâ ortus est, eam Scotorum gens incolit*, *Columbanus, who is also called Columba, was born in Ireland, a Country inhabited by the Nation of the Scots*. The venerable *Bede*, in the first Chapter of the History of *England*, asserts, that the *Scots* were the Inhabitants of *Ireland*, *Hibernia propria Scotorum patria est*: *Ireland is the Original Country of the Scots*. And the same learned Author, giving an Account of the *Saints*, speaks thus, *Sanctus Kilianus & duo Socii ejus ab Hiberniâ Scotorum Insula venerunt*: *Saint Kilianus and his two Companions came from Ireland an Island of the Scots*. From the Testimony of this faithful Writer it appears, that the *Irish* were called *Scots* or *Cineadh Scuit* in the Time of *Bede*, who flourished about seven hundred Years after the Birth of Christ.

*Orosius*, who lived much earlier in the fourth Century, agrees with the Evidences before produced, and in the second Chapter of the first Book expresses himself thus, *Hibernia Scotorum gentibus colitur*: *Ireland is inhabited by the Nation of the Scots*. It is most certain, that



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that the Island was called by the Name of *Scotia* by most Authors. *Serapius* informs us, that the blessed *Saint Kilian* descended from the Scots; his Words are, *Beatus Kilianus Scotorum genere*; and near the same Place he says, *Scotia quæ & Hibernia dicitur*; Scotland, which is also called Ireland; so that the Island was known by both Names. But as the clearest Testimony in this Matter, the Expression of *Capgravius* must not be omitted: This Author, writing of *St. Colum Cill*, has these Words, *Hibernia enim antiquitus Scotia dicta est, de quâ gens Scotorum Albania Britanniae majori proxima, quæ ab eventu modo Scotia dicitur, originem duxit, & progressum habuit.* The Kingdom of Ireland was anciently called Scotland; from whence came the People of the Scots that inhabit Albany, which joins to a Part of the greater Britain, and is now called Scotland. This Evidence is supported by *Marianus*, a Scottish Author, in this Manner; he is writing of *St. Kilian*, and speaks thus, *Etiamsi hodie Scotia propriè vocetur ea Britanniae pars, quæ ipsi Angliæ continens ad Septentrionalem vergit, olim tamen eo nomine Hiberniam non tantum fuisse ostendit venerabilis Beda, cum ex Scotiâ Pictorum gentem in Hiberniam venisse ait, ibique Scotorum gentem invenisse.* At this Time that Part of Britain, which borders upon the North of England, is properly called Scotland; but Venerable Bede does not only prove that Ireland was formerly known by that Name when he says, that the Nation of the Picts came from Scotland into Ireland, and there they found a Nation of the Scots.

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This Opinion, that Ireland was formerly distinguished by the Name of *Scotia* is yet confirmed by the Authority of *Cæsarius*, who lived about five hundred Years after Christ; the Words of this Writer follow, *Qui de purgatorio dubitat, Scotiam pergat, purgatorium sancti Patricii intret, & de Purgatorii poenis amplius non dubitabit.* Whoever doubts whether there be any such Place as Purgatory, let him go to Scotia, let him enter into the Purgatory of *St. Patrick*, and he will no longer disbelieve the Pains of Purgatory. This Expression may justly be depended upon to prove that *Scotia* was then the proper Name of the Island; for there is no Place to be found in Scotland that goes by the Name of *Saint Patrick's Purgatory*, and it is certain that there is such a Place in Ireland to be met with at this Day.

*Cæsarius*, speaking of *St. Boniface*, delivers his Sentiments in this Manner, *Hibernia Scotia sibi nomen etiam vendicabit*

cabat, quâ tamen ex Hiberniâ ista Scotorum pars quedam egressa est, in eâque Britanniae orâ quam Picti jam habebant confederunt; ii qui principio a duce suo Rheuda Dailreudini dicti fuerunt, ut ait Venerabilis Beda; postea tamen Pictos inde ipsos exegerunt, & boreale totum illud latius obtinuerunt, eique vetus gentis suae nomen indiderunt; ita ut Scotorum gens una fuerit, sed Scotia duplex facta sit, una vetus & propria in Hiberniâ, recentior altera in septentrionali Britannia. Ireland was properly known by the Name of Scotia, out of which Island a Colony of Scots removed and settled themselves in the Part of Britain that was possessed by the Picts. They were called Dailreudins originally from Rheuda their General, as the Venerable Bede observes; and they expelled the Picts, out of that Country, and possessed themselves of all the Northern Coast, which they distinguished by the ancient Name of their own Nation. So that tho' the Nation of the Scots was one, yet there were two Countries known by the Name of Scotia, the one the Old Scotia, which is properly the Kingdom of Ireland, the other the New, which is in North Britain. From the Expression of this Author, it is proper to observe; that he was persuaded, that the Irish were the genuine Scots, that the Tribe of the Dailriads were first call'd Scots in Scotland, and that the ancient Name of Ireland was Scotia Major; as Scotland was distinguished by the Title of Scotia Minor, which Name was imposed upon that Country by Cimeadh Scuit.

Buchanan, a Scottish Author of some Note, has a Passage in the second Book of his History of Scotland, agreeable to the Opinion of the Writer abovementioned. His Words are, *Scoti omnes Hiberniae habitatores initio vocabantur, ut indicat Orosius; nec semel Scotorum ex Hiberniâ transitum in Albaniam factum nostri Annales referunt.* All the Inhabitants of Ireland were originally called Scots, as Orosius testifies; and our Annals give an Account, that the Scots of Ireland removed more than once into Scotland. From whence it is to be collected, that not only the Dailriads transported themselves from Ireland into Scotland, but that more of the Inhabitants left the Island, and obtained Settlements in Scotland; and this is agreeable to the ancient Records of the Kingdom, which particularly mention several Colonies, that from Time to Time invaded the Country, and by their Valour and other Methods made them-



themselves Masters of new Possessions, which continued in their Families for many Ages.

donn dnon-  
 5aib do cu-  
 aib o eipin  
 do eum 211  
 ban fa eiof  
 anro.

The *Irish* Chronicles assert, that *Aongus Ollbhuidbach*, the Son of *Fiachadh Labhrune*, was sent into *Scotland* by the King his Master, to settle and collect the Tribute, that was imposed upon the *Picts*, as an Acknowledgment of Homage and Submission to the Crown of *Ireland*; and this happened about two hundred and fifty Years after the *Milesians* were in Possession of the Island. At a considerable Distance of Time *Reachtai Righdearg*, King of *Ireland*, went into *Scotland* upon the same Design, and imposed a Tax upon the Inhabitants. *Cairbre Riada* likewise transported a Number of Forces, and attempted to make a Conquest of the Eastern Part of *Scotland*, from whom the *Scottish Dailreudini*, as the learned *Bede* observes, were lineally descended. *Mac Con* also had great Authority in the Government of *Scotland* and *Wales*, and from thence he came into *Ireland* to the Battel of *Muigh Muchrume*, where *Art*, the Son of *Conn*, the Hero of the hundred Battels, was slain; by the Success of which Battel *Mac Con* obtained the Sovereignty, and was the succeeding Monarch of the Island. Some Time afterward *Fatha Canam*, the Son of *Mac Conn*, with a resolute Body of Troops, Invaded the Coasts of *Scotland*, and got Possession of large Territories in the Country. The Posterity of this Prince were the *Mac Allens* and their Descendents.

Ocolla ua-  
 is ataid  
 elan doin-  
 naill no her-  
 nion 7 na  
 halban.

*Colla Uais* with his Followers transported themselves into *Scotland*, and by their Bravery and Success obtained a Settlement for their Families; from this Commander were derived the noble and illustrious Tribe of the *Clann Donalls* in *Scotland* and *Ireland*. *Criomthian*, the Son of *Fidbach*, the King of *Ireland*, made an Invasion upon the *Scottish* Dominions, as did *Earc*, the Son of *Rochaidh Munrambar*, Son of *Aongus Fint*, a Prince descended from *Cairbre Riada*, whose Posterity are distinguished by the Names of *Clan Eirc*, and *Cineall Gabhrain* in *Scotland*, and *Cineal Lodhainn*, *Cineal Camhbhaill*, *Cineal Naonasa*, and *Cineal Conchriche* in *Nuiri*, with all the spreading Branches of those ancient Families. *Mairne Leambna*, the Son of *Gorc*, Son of *Lughalbach*, invaded the Kingdom of *Scotland*, and succeeded so far in his Design, that he made a Conquest of a large Territory, which from him was called *Mormor Leambna*, now the Dukedom of *Lenox*; and to this

do mairne le-  
 amna an ro-  
 ye.

this Prince the noble Family of the House of *Lenox* owe their Original. *Eoganach Moirgh Geirgin* descended from a Brother of this *Maine Leambna*, whose Name was *Cairbre Cruithneach*. These two Brothers, some Time after the Reign of *Niall*, of the *nine Hostages*, went into *Scotland*, and there settled themselves; and after them the six Sons of *Muireadbach*, the Son of *Eogan*, Son of *Neill*, encouraged by the Success of their Country-men, made an Attempt, and got Possessions in the Country; they were known by the Names of the two *Lodains*, two *Aongus's*, and two *Feargus's*; from whence it appears that the principal of the *Scotish* Families were descended originally from the ancient *Irish*; to them they owe the Nobility of their Blood, and the Glory of their Families.

But it must be confessed, that the *Scotish* Tribes, that inhabit near the Borders of *England*, have no Pretence to a Descent from the *Irish*; because their Ancestors were banished out of *England* into those Lands by *William the Conqueror*; which may easily be collected by the Resemblance of Manners and Customs to be observed at this Day between the Borderers of both Nations.

Many other Families likewise that have Possessions in *Scotland*, have no Right to boast of an *Irish* Extraction, being the Posterity of the old *English*; and in Testimony of this we have the Authority of the laborious *Stowe*, who in his *Annals* gives this Account. He relates, that *Henry the second King of England* was engaged in a War with the *Scots*, and took *William King of Scotland* Prisoner, whom he order'd into Custody and to be close confined at *Roan* in *Normandy*, where he continued a Captive till he was dismiss'd by paying a Ransom of four hundred Pounds, after which both Kings made Peace, and became Friends. The King of *Scotland* after his Release prepared to return into his own Country, and determin'd from a Principle of Gratitude to take with him a Number of *English* Gentlemen, who had obliged him by many Civilities in his Restraint, and bestow Settlements upon them among his Subjects; which he generously did, upon his Return, and appointed a large Territory for the Support of his *English* Attendants, and upon their Heirs for ever, which Estates have been enjoyed by some of their Posterity to this Day. The Names of the principal *English*, who followed the King

into

into Scotland, are transmitted to us, such as *Balioll, Bruce, Rawly, Moubrey, Sencler, Hangisford, Ramsay, Barkly, Landell, Bisey, Wallegene, Roysse, Montgomery, Walley, Colly, Milly, Fricker, Greme, Garley*, and many others.

*Buchanan*, the *Scottish* Historian, agrees with this Relation in the second Book of his History of Scotland, where he has this Expression, *Principio cum utrique, id est Hiberniæ incolæ & Coloni eorum in Albium missi Scoti appellarentur, ut discrimine aliquo alteri ab alteris distinguerentur initio cœpere alteri Scoti Albani vocari.* Since the Natives of Ireland and the Colonies sent from thence into Scotland, were originally call'd Scots; in order to distinguish between the Irish, and these Scots, they began to call those transplanted Irish by the Name of Albanian Scots. From the Testimony of this Historian we are to observe, that the Scots, who inhabited Scotland, were originally Natives of Ireland, and removed from thence to obtain new Settlements; and likewise that the ancient Irish were known originally by the Name of Scots; and to confirm the Opinion of this Author, we have the concurring Sentiments of the *English* Annalist the celebrated *Stowe*, which may properly be introduced in this Place before we treat particularly of the Reign of *Niall* of the nine Hostages; because what we have to observe concerning that Prince, will receive an additional Credit by the Authority of this great Antiquary, who has been ever esteemed a Writer of singular Integrity and Reputation.

The learned *Stowe* gives an Account, that in the Year of Christ seventy three, one *Marius* was King of *England*, and that *Rogerus* King of the *Picts* invaded the *British* Territories with a numerous Army out of *Scotia*, and a strong Body of hardy Scots, who enter'd the Country with Fire and Sword, and by continued Hostilities and Incurfions mightily distress'd the Inhabitants. The King of *England* with a Number of choice Forces made Head against the Invaders, and gave them Battel, wherein *Rogerus* and most of his Army were slain. The Victor used his Success with Moderation; for such of the Enemy as surrender'd to his Mercy, he spared, and assign'd them a Competency of Lands in the East Part of *Scotland*, for their Support. Here they settled, but having no Women among them to perpetuate their Families, they sent into *Wales* for a Supply; but they were denied, which made them address to the *Irish*, who

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completed



complied with their Request; So far have we followed the Testimony of *Stowe*, as a collateral Evidence upon this Occasion. It was observ'd before, that the General of the *Pictish* Army transported Women out of *Ireland* with them in the Time of *Heremon*, which was about three hundred Years before *Marius* was King of *England* and this Transaction happen'd, as the same Author asserts, in the Year of *Christ* wherein *Vespasian* was elected *Roman* Emperor, which was ten Years before the Abbey of *Glastenbury* was built, and two Hundred and seventy two Years after the beginning of the Christian *Era*, when *Aurelian* presided over the Empire, and first attempted to adorn his Head with an *Imperial* Crown.

Three hundred and ninety five Years after the Birth A. D. 395. of *Christ*, *Pelagius* a Native of *Wales* began first to broach his Herefie, at which Time it was that the Emperor *Aurelian* selected a Number of the *Roman* Clergy and sent them into *Great Britain*, to instruct the Inhabitants and settle the Catholick Religion among them; when they arrived they found the *Scots* and the *Picts* plundering and harassing the Country without Opposition: The *Britains* in this Extremity sent their Deputies to *Honorius* the Emperor, and implored his Assistance; but the Empire at that Time could not spare any Troops to defend their Conquests at so great a distance, and therefore the *Britains* received no other Answer than that they must provide for themselves in the best Manner they could, for they were not to expect any Succours from *Rome*. By this means the Invaders brought the *Britains* under Servitude, and cruelly fleec'd the Inhabitants, who were unable longer to bear the Yoke, or to answer the exorbitant Demands of the Conquerors. Reduced to this Distress, they again depute Messengers, and send them to *Rome*, who succeeded so well in their Negotiations, that a *Legion* was sent over with them; but this Assistance was too weak to repel the victorious *Picts*, who had considerably enlarged their Conquests, and almost overrun the whole Kingdom. The *Roman* Legion upon their Arrival made several Attempts upon the Enemy, but with small Success, for they could not boast of any Advantage over the Invaders, who fatigued them with continual Skirmishes, and made them resolve to give over the Attempt, and return to *Rome*: But before they left the Country they persuaded the *Britains*

to raise a strong Fortification upon the Borders of *England* between them and their Enemies, which would be a means to prevent the Incurſions of the *Scots* and *Picts*, and be a great Security to the Inhabitants.

The *Roman* Auxiliaries departed, and when they were gone the *Britains*, perceiving themſelves deſtitute of foreign Succours, thought proper to put in Execution the Advice of fortifying their Borders and oppoſing the Inroads of their Neighbours; accordingly they made a deep Trench, and raiſed a high Bank of Sods from Sea to Sea; But this Defence proved ineffectual to reſtrain the Attempts of their Enemies, for when the *Scots* and *Picts* had Intelligence that the *Romans* had left the Iſland, they immediately ſet upon the abandon'd *Britains*, broke down the Partition of Turf, and by Plundering and other Cruelties brought great Diſtreſs upon the Inhabitants. Theſe Calamities were inſupportable, and therefore the *Britains*, unable to bear or to redreſs theſe Miſfortunes, were oblig'd to ſend their Deputies to *Rome* a third Time, and by repreſenting the deplorable State of the Country, humbly ſupplicate for Relief. The *Romans* thought themſelves oblig'd to defend their Allies, and therefore ſent a Legion over to their Aſſiſtance. When they arrived, the *Britains* drew together their ſcatter'd Forces, which with the Auxiliary Legion made a conſiderable Army. With theſe Troops they march'd againſt the Enemy, who unable to bear the Shock of the *Roman* Courage, were oblig'd to fly with great Loſs, and were ſo diſpirited with continual Skirmiſhes and bad Succeſs, that they deſpaired of maintaining what they had acquired, and retired toward their own Borders. Hither they were perſued by the Victors with great Slaughtering, and forc'd to retreat beyond the Fortification erected by the *Britains*, and fly far into their own Country to ſave their Lives.

The *Romans* having thus deliver'd the *Britains* from the cruel Tyranny of the *Scots* and *Picts*, reſolv'd to return, for they found it of ſmall Importance to undertake ſuch long Marches, and hazard their Lives, when no Rewards followed their Victories, and their Allies were in ſo low a Condition, by the Miſeries of a long War, that they were unable to make them ſuitable Satisfaction. Under theſe Diſcouragements they left the Iſland and the diſtreſs'd *Britains* to the Mercy of an enraged Enemy, who ſoon had Notice of their Departure, and prepared

prepared themselves for another Invasion. The *Britains* apprehensive of their Design, used their utmost Diligence to repair the Wall upon the Borders, which they proposed to fortify with stronger Materials than Turf and Dirt, and began to raise it with Stone-work of eight Foot broad and twelve Foot high, as the learned *Bede* particularly relates in the fifth Chapter of his *English History*.

By this Time the *Scots* and *Picts* were ready for their Attempt, and encouraging themselves upon the Absence of the *Romans*, they depended upon Success; for the Enemies they were to engage with were broken hearted, and were used to fly at the first Attack. Accordingly they marched their Forces, that were very numerous, toward the Borders, and making a wide Breach in the Partition Wall, they entered the Country with dreadful Hostilities, and committing the most unheard of Outrages, they so dispirited the *Britains*, who dreaded their Cruelty, that without attempting to hinder their IncurSIONS, they were obliged with their Wives and Families to leave their Habitations, and to fly to the Woods and WilderNESSes to preserve their Lives. The Invaders pursued them closely, resolving to extirpate the whole Race of them, and besieged them within those inaccessible Places, wherein they sheltered themselves, insomuch that the *Britains* were constrained to feed upon wild Beasts and the natural Produce of the Earth; for if they attempted to peep out of their Fastnesses, they were in Danger of being taken by the *Picts* or *Scots*, who used them barbarously, and put them to the most tormenting Death.

In these miserable Extremities they continued for some Time, till at last their indefatigable and sharp-sighted Enemies had driven them into a Corner of the Country with the Sea behind them, and the victorious Invaders in the Front. This distressed Condition obliged them to solicit the Mercy of the *Romans* once more, and accordingly they found means to dispatch a Messenger with a most supplicating Letter to *Boetius* one of the Consuls. This Epistle most pitifully represented the Circumstances of their hard Fate, how they were confined within a narrow Compass, between the Sea and the Enemy; so that if they attempted to fly they were sure of being drowned, and if they stirred out of their Camp, they fell

fell into the Hands of the Besiegers, the most inhuman and relentless Enemy of the two; concluding in the most submissive Manner, and imploring the Assistance of the *Romans* against the *Scots* and *Picts*, who would unavoidably, within a short Time, destroy the old *Britains*, and make themselves Masters of the whole Island. This Transaction is particularly mentioned by the Venerable *Bede*, in the thirteenth Chapter of his History of *England*, where he has preserved the very Expression made use of in that Epistle to the Consul; the Words are these, *Repellunt Barbari ad mare, repellit mare ad Barbaros, inter hæc oriuntur duo genera funerum, aut jugulamur aut mergimur*: The Barbarians drive us back to the Sea, the Sea beats us again upon the Barbarians; so that between these two Enemies we have two Sorts of Death before us, we are either butcher'd or drowned.

By the Success of the *Scots* in their Invasions of the *English*, it appears that the *Irish Scots* (as they all originally were) had the *Britains* in Subjection, and made them Tributaries. *Nonnius*, an ancient *British* Author (as *Speed* in his Chronicle observes) asserts, that the *Scots* and *Picts* were victorious over the *Britains*, who were a conquered People for the Space of four hundred Years; and the learned *Camden* confirms this Opinion, where he says, *Anno 500 a Cæsaris ingressu Britannia Pictorum immanitati relinquuntur*: Five hundred Years after Cæsar first entred the Island the Kingdom of Britain was left abandoned to the Cruelty of the *Picts* and *Scots*; which farther deserves our Belief, because the judicious *Bede*, in the fourteenth Chapter of the first Book of the forementioned History, has this Expression, *Revertuntur impudentes grassatores Hiberni domum, post non longum tempus reversuri*: The audacious Irish Plunderers are returned home, designing after a short Time to invade us again. From whence it is obvious to collect, that the *Irish* were professed Enemies to the *Britains*, and made frequent Invasions into their Country; for when the *Romans* would not interpose in their Quarrels, but withdrew their Succours, they were sorely harass'd by the *Scots* and *Picts*, who reduced them to the lowest Misery, and exercised an insupportable Tyranny over them.

ειπεδεν  
παλασιον  
ανθο γε.

But the continual Inroads and Barbarities of their Enemies was not the only Calamity that oppressed the *Britains*; for about that Time the *Pelagian* Heresy gave them great Uneasiness, which was propagated with

ar yo ar  
13001500  
mon ne3e na  
Scot 7  
nabpict.

great Industry, and found kind Reception among the Populace. To stop the Infection of these wicked Principles, the *Britains*, unable to exercise any Church Discipline by Reason of their Servitude, summon'd a Convention, and agreed in Council to apply to the Church of *France*, and desire they would send over some of their eminent Prelates and Divines to recover the People out of this filthy Heresy, and establish them in the Orthodox Faith. The *Gallican* Church held a Meeting upon this Message; and after some Debates they resolved to dispatch two celebrated Bishops, *Germanus* and *Lupus*, into *Britain*, to oppose the Progress of the *Pelagian* Doctrines. The Prelates, when they arrived, applied themselves vigorously to the Business they came about; and by the irresistible Force of their Arguments and the Piety of their Lives they so prevailed upon the Affections of the People, that they renounced the impious Tenets of *Pelagius*, and were confirmed in the Principles of the true Religion.

The *Scots* and *Picts*, we have observed, were continu- *A. D. 447.*  
 al Thorns in the Sides of the *Britains*, and Wars were waged between the two Nations, until the Reign of *Vortigern*, King of *Britain*, which was in the Year of our Redemption, four hundred and forty seven. The Inhabitants of *Britain* at that Time were a very wicked People; and Heaven, for their Impieties, delivered them under the Power of the *Scots* and *Picts*, who were sore Scourges in the Hand of Providence, and ruled them with a Rod of Iron; insomuch that the *Britains* were forced to send Messengers to two *Saxon* Princes, *Hengist* and *Horfa*, and desire their Assistance. These Foreigners landed in the Island, attended with a numerous Army, and in several Engagements repel'd the Insolence of the *Scots* and *Picts*, and obliged them to give over their Attempts, and to cease their Hostilities. By the Assistance of these *German* Forces the *Britains* were freed from the Incursions of their Neighbours, who kept within their own Borders, and the Kingdom was settled in Peace to the universal Joy and Satisfaction of the Inhabitants.

The indefatigable *Stowe*, in his *British Chronicle*,<sup>part II. 3</sup> printed at *London* in the Year sixteen hundred and four-<sup>480</sup> teen, at the fifty second Page, gives an Account, that<sup>on page 480</sup> these *Germans* or *Saxons* were so pleased with the Air and<sup>by the way</sup> the Fertility of the Island, that they barbarously mur-<sup>70</sup> ther'd



ther'd at one Massacre four hundred and eighty of the Nobility and Gentry of *Britain*; and that *Aurelius Ambrosius*, then King of *Britain*, caused the Stones that were brought by *Merlin* from Mount *Clair* in the Province of *Munster*, to be erected in the same Place where the barbarous Execution was committed, as an eternal Monument of *German Cruelty* upon the Natives of *Britain*. Some Time afterwards *Aurelius* himself was buried in the same Place; and the same Author observes, that these Stones, when they were fixed, were called *Chorea Gigantum*, but now are known by the Name of *Stone Henge* upon *Salisbury Plain*. That Historian asserts farther, that the *Irish* brought these Stones with them from *Africa*, and what *Jeoffry of Monmouth* observes is very remarkable, that no two of those Stones came originally out of the same Part of that Country.

on Africa  
tußßaobil  
na eloda  
ym 7c.

From the Testimony of this *English* Historian it is easy to believe, that the *Irish* were accustomed to sail to *Africa*, that they made Voyages abroad with Honour and Success, and obtained considerable Authority in other Countries beside their own; and whoever disputes the Grandeur and great Character of the ancient *Irish*, betrays his Ignorance of Antiquity, and confesses that he never conversed with old Records, which are the Fountain, from whence an Historian is to draw out his Observations. Some Persons would willingly be acquainted with the celebrated Transactions of past Ages without the Trouble of Reading and Study; for which Reason they are mere Pedants, and take up with all superficial Relations without searching into the Origin of Kingdoms, or turning over the old Chronicles that preserve the Memory of those renowned Times. It is the Observation of *Macrobius* in the sixth Book of his *Saturnalia*, *Multa ignoramus quæ non laterent, si veterum lectio nobis esset familiaris: We are ignorant of many things with which we might be acquainted, would we make the Reading of the ancient Annals familiar to us.* And this Remark is in no Instance more exactly verified than with Relation to the *Irish* History.

breatdinf  
ymet Scot  
dgur no  
bpiet.

A. D. 476.

For when we assert, that the Kingdom of *Britain* was formerly Tributary to the *Scots* and *Picts*; if the Integrity of our Relation be suspected, we can immediately refer to the Testimony of the learned *Camden*, who in his Chronicle has this Expression, *Britanni facti sunt tributarii Scotis & Pictis, anno 476: In the Year four hundred and*

seventy

Seventy six, the Britains became tributary to the Scots and Picts. And when we say, that the Picts were afterwards overpower'd and suppress'd by the Scots; we have the Liberty to call in the Evidence of the same Writer, who informs us, that about the Year eight hundred and fifty, or, as others suppose, eight hundred thirty nine, when *Gronaoth*, the Son of *Alpin*, was King of Scotland, the Picts were brought in Subjection to the Scots. If the Credit of this History should be questioned, because we insist, that no other foreign Powers possessed the Sovereignty of the Kingdom of Ireland, but those Princes we have taken Notice of, and whose Succession we have accounted for, such as *Partholanus*, *Clanna Neimidh*, *Firbolg*, the *Tuatha de Danans*, and the *Milesians*; we have Authority to justify our Relation by citing the Testimony of a reputable Author, *Gulielmus Nubirgensis*, who says expressly in the twenty sixth Chapter of his second Book *Hibernia nunquam externe subiecit ditioni: The Kingdom of Ireland never submitted to a foreign Power.* And lastly, if we transmit to Posterity some remarkable Exploits of *Niall* the Hero of the nine Hostages, that were scarce ever heard of before, especially in latter Ages, we declare that we abhor to impose upon the World with Fictions of romantick Adventures; but our Authorities are the most valuable ancient Records of the Kingdom, which we peruse with great Caution and Industry, and from thence extract our Materials, and are directed in our Method and the Management of the Subject before us.

There is an old Manuscript in Vellum, exceeding curious, intitled, *The Life of St. Patrick*, which treats likewise of the Lives of *Muchuda Albain* and other Saints, from whence I shall transcribe a Citation that relates to *St. Patrick*, and particularly mentions that he was of a *Welsh* Extraction; *Patricius Brito natus, ex parentibus religiosus ortus: Patrick was a Britain born, and descended from religious Parents:* And in the same Place he has the following Remark, *Scoti de Hibernia sub rege suo Niall diversas provincias Britannia contra Romanum imperium multum devastabant, contendere incipientes Aquilonalem Britannia plagam, tandem, ejectis veteribus Colonis, ipsi Hibernienses eam occupaverunt & habitaverunt: The Irish Scots, under Niall their King, wasted and destroyed many Provinces of Britain in Opposition to the Power of the Romans. They attempted to possess themselves of the*

~ Northern part of Britain; and at length, having driven out the old Inhabitants, those Irish seiz'd upon the Coun'ry, and settled in it. The same Author upon this Occasion remarks, that from thenceforward Great Britain was divided into three Kingdoms, that were distinguished by the Names of *Scotia*, *Anglia* and *Britia*.

This ancient Writer likewise asserts, that when *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, undertook the Expedition of settling the Tribe of the *Dailriada* in *Scotland*; the *Irish* Fleet sail'd to the Place where *St. Patrick* resided: *Hoc tempore quedam classis Hibernica deprædavit patriam, in quâ morabatur Divus Patricius; & consueto Hibernorum more, multi inde captivi ducti sunt, inter quos erant Divus Patricius, ætatis suæ anno decimo sexto, & duæ ejus Sorores, Lupida & Darerca, & ductus est Divus Patricius in Hiberniam captivus, anno nono Neill, Regis Hiberniæ, qui potenter 27 annis regnavit, ac Britanniam & Angliam & Galliam devastavit: At this Time the Fleet out of Ireland plundered the County in which Saint Patrick then lived, and, according to the Custom of the Irish, many Captives were carried away from thence, among whom was Saint Patrick, in the sixteenth Year of his Age, and his two Sisters Lupida and Darerca; and Saint Patrick was led Captive into Ireland in the ninth Year of the Reign of Neill, King of Ireland, who was the mighty Monarch of the Kingdom for seven and twenty Years, and brought away*

1r de3b 50  
ndedcuig  
nall ndoi  
5allac 50  
byedatn.

*Spoils out of England, Britain, and France. By this Expression it is to be supposed, that Niall of the nine Hostages waged Wars against Britain or Wales, and perhaps made a Conquest of the Country; and it is more than probable, that when this Irish Prince had finished his Design upon the Kingdom of Wales, he carried his Arms in a Fleet into France, and invaded the Country at that Time called Armorica, but now Little Britany, and from thence he led St. Patrick and his two Sisters into Captivity.*

And this I am the rather induced to believe, because the Mother of *St. Patrick* was the Sister of *Martin*, the Bishop of *Turin* in *France*; and I have read in an ancient *Irish* Manuscript, whose Authority I cannot dispute, that *St. Patrick* and his two Sisters were brought Captive into *Ireland* from *Armorica* or *Britany* in the Kingdom of *France*. It is evident likewise that when *Niall*, the King of *Ireland*, had succeeded the *Britains* he dispatch'd a formidable Fleet to plunder the Coasts of *France*,

and

and his Success, and that he carried away Numbers of the Natives with him into Captivity, one of which it is reasonable to suppose was the young *Patrick*, who was afterwards distinguish'd by the Name of the *Irish Saint*.

*Niall* encouraged by the Number of his Captives, and the Success of his Arms in *France*, resolv'd upon another Expedition; and accordingly rais'd a gallant Army of his *Irish* Subjects for that purpose, and sent a Commission to the General of the *Dailriada* in *Scotland*, to follow him with his choicest Troops and assist him in the Invasion. *Niall* having prepared a sufficient Number of Transports, and a Competency of Provision, weigh'd Anchor with his victorious *Irish*, and steering his Course directly to *France*, had the Advantage of a prosperous Gale, and in a few Days landed upon the Coasts: He immediately set himself to spoil and ravage the Country near the River *Loire*; Here it was that the General of the *Dailriada* found him, and both Armies being joined, they committed dreadful Hostilities, which oblig'd the Inhabitants to fly and leave the Country to the Mercy of the Invaders.

The commanding Officer of the *Dailriada* in this Expedition was *Gabbran*, the Son of *Dombanguirt*, who brought over with him *Eochaidh*, the Son of *Eana Cinsalach*, King of *Leinster*: This young Prince had been formerly banish'd into *Scotland* by *Niall*, but resolv'g to be reveng'd when Opportunity offer'd, he desir'd to be admitted as a Volunteer in the Service, and by that means was transport'd into *France*. The King of *Ireland* being inform'd of his Arrival, would upon no account permit a Visit from him, nor suffer him in his Presence: but *Eochaidh* soon found an Opportunity to execute his Design; for upon a Day perceiving the King sitting upon the Bank of the *Loire*, he convey'd himself secretly into an opposite Grove on the other side, and shot *Niall* through the Body with an Arrow; the Wound was mortal and he instantly died.

The Difference between the King of *Ireland* and *Eochaidh* the Prince of *Munster* arose upon this occasion; The Ambition of *Eochaidh* incited him to keep his Residence at *Tara*, as Monarch of the Island, in express opposition to the Command of the King, and accordingly by way of taking Possession he abode there nine Days and Nights. This Attempt of his was censur'd by a *Druid* of principal Note, who inform'd him, that

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by

by this Practice he had violated the ancient and solemn Customs of *Tara*, which enjoined that no Person should presume to keep his Court in that royal Palace before he was admitted into the Order of *Knighthood*. This Intelligence had that Effect, that *Eochaidh* withdrew from *Tara*, and relinquished his Pretensions to the Crown of *Ireland*. When he was gone, *Niall* removed thither, and kept his Court as the King of *Ireland*; and lest *Eochaidh* should again renew his Claim to the Crown after many Skirmishes and sharp Disputes, he was banish'd into *Scotland*.

Gair eile  
easdaonta  
do bi idir  
mall 7 co-  
chaid.

The King of *Ireland* received another Provocation from *Eochaidh*, which incensed his Resentment, and in some Measure occasioned his Banishment; for when *Eochaidh* had abandon'd the royal Seat of *Tara*, and was upon his Way towards his own Province, he came to the House of *Laidhgin*, the Son of *Bairceadha*, a principal *Druid* and in great favour with the King of *Ireland*. While he continued here the Son of this *Druid* had the Imprudence to throw out some contemptuous Expressions against *Eochaidh*, which he so resented, that he fell upon him and kill'd him on the Spot. This Action so enraged the Father, that he instantly applied himself to *Niall* for Satisfaction, and representing the Fact in the most aggravating Circumstances, he prevail'd upon the King, who promised to revenge the Death of his Son upon the Prince, and the People of *Leinster*.

215577 lai-  
gean anyo  
7c.

*Niall*, with all Expedition, prepared an Army to invade the Province, which he entered with Fire and Sword, and miserably distressed the Inhabitants; the *Druid* followed the Army into *Leinster*, and perceiving the Miseries the innocent People suffered by this dreadful Invasion, he took Pity upon their Misfortunes, and told them that the King's Forces should commit no farther Disorders, if they would deliver *Eochaidh*, who was the only Criminal, into his Hands. The Inhabitants, reduc'd to the last Extremities, accepted of this Expedient; and, tho' with great Reluctancy, seiz'd upon the Prince, and surrendered him into the Power of his enraged Enemy.

Nig laigea  
ceangailte  
le ylabra.

The *Druid*, full of Revenge, design'd to execute his Prisoner by a lingering Death, and therefore caused his Body to be chained to a great Stone that stood upright, and is now to be seen on the West Side of *Slainy*, between *Cill Brighde* and *Tullach ó Feidhlin*. The unfortunate

Prince



Prince was obliged to stand with his Back towards the Stone; and when he had remained there for some Time, loaded and galled with the Weight of the Chain, the Druid resolved to dispatch him, and put an End to his Life: He therefore commanded nine Soldiers to set upon him; for *Eochaidh* was a Person of great Strength and invincible Bravery, and he supposed would not fall without Resistance. The Prince perceiving the Executioners advanc'd towards him, he summon'd all his Courage, and forcing the Chain with more than mortal Strength, he unriveted the Pin which fastened the Ends of the Chain, and obtained his Liberty. Unarm'd as he was, he fell upon the Soldiers, and twisting their Weapons out of their Hands, he killed some of them, and made good his Retreat with that Safety, that he found Means to escape into *Scotland*. When he arrived he requested the Protection of *Gabhran*, the Son of *Dombanguirt*, the General of the *Dail-riada*, with whom he came into *France*, and slew *Niall*, who was the Occasion of all his Misfortunes.

When this Prince *Eochaidh* was in Exile in *Scotland*, it happened that his Wife, whose Name was *Feidhlin*, the Daughter of *Cobhbhain*, Son of *Dathii*, was with Child; and at the same Time the Wife of *Gabhran*, the Son of *Dombanguirt*, whose Name was *Ingeanach*, was with Child likewise, and both the Ladies, it seems, were equally near their Travail; for they were both seiz'd with Pains, and were delivered in one Night; and for Conveniency, and by Reason of the Friendship that was between them, the two Princesses were lodg'd in the same Apartment. There were no Persons admitted in the Room but the Midwife, all the other Attendants being commanded to stay without the Door till they were called. The *Irish* Princess was brought to Bed of two Sons, and the *Scottish* Lady was delivered of a Daughter; for she had born many Children, but all Females, and passionately desired a Son, the more to please and engage the Affections of her Husband. When therefore she understood that the other Lady was delivered of two Sons, she desired that she would part with one of them to her; the *Irish* Princess consented, and her Friend received the Infant into her Bed with the greatest Transport and Satisfaction.

This Artifice was concealed from the Attendants, who, upon their Admission into the Room, perceiving that

that the *Scottish* Lady had a Son, instantly carried the joyful News to the Father, who caressed the Infant with the fondest Endearments, and called him by the Name of *Eogan*, not suspecting the Fraud, but supposing it to be his own. He likewise complimented the *Irish* Lady upon the Birth of her young Prince, who was known by the Name of *Randubh*, Son of *Eochaidh*.

Uí Riag  
Eoghan 2-  
Eoghan 2-  
ra mac 2-  
ndis 80  
heir 17.

After the Death of *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Heroes*, *Eochaidh* return'd into *Ireland*, and sent for his Lady and his Son from *Scotland*. He took Possession of the Government of *Leinster*, and was King of that Province for many Years. His Friend *Gabbran*, the General of the *Dailriadas*, obtained the Sovereignty of *Scotland*, and settled the Succession upon his supposed Son.

Eoghan 7  
brandub an-  
ro 7c.

*Eogan* the young Prince, after the Death of *Gabbran*, laid Claim to the Kingdom of *Scotland* by Hereditary Right, and was crown'd without Opposition; and when he had settled the State of his Affairs, he prepared a Number of Shipping and a gallant Army to invade *Ireland*; for he justified his Pretensions to that Kingdom as he was a lineal Descendent from *Cairbre Riada*. His Forces consisted of *English*, *Welsh* and *Scots*, and when he landed upon the *Irish* Coasts, he began Hostilities upon the Province of *Leinster*, and plunder'd the Inhabitants. *Brandubh*, the Son of *Eochaidh*, was then King of *Leinster*; and being unable with the Strength of his Provincial Troops to oppose the Invaders, he was forc'd to see his Subjects pillaged, and to consult for his own Safety. His Mother lived with him at that Time, who lamenting the distress'd Circumstances of her Son, advised him not to sink under his Misfortunes; for she would go in Person to the King of *Scotland*, and by a Stratagem she was confident she could put a Stop to his spoiling of the Country, and persuade him to retire out of the Province. This Motion came very seasonably; for the King of *Scotland* had then sent to the King of *Leinster* to demand a heavy Tribute from him, and upon Refusal he threatned him with Military Execution, and the utmost Miseries of Fire and Sword.

The good old Lady as she promised set out for the *Irish* Camp, and when she arrived demanded Audience of the King; *Eochaidh* was surpris'd at the Adventure, and supposing she was distracted, he admitted her into

his

his Presence. She then boldly expostulated with him upon the Subject of his Invasion, and representing the cruel Depredations he had executed upon the Province of *Leinster*; she demanded with intrepid Bravery what provoked him to so barbarous and unwarrantable an Undertaking. The King enraged at this Question replied, that he was not obliged to answer the Impudence of every old Hag that should ask him Questions, and commanded her to make the best of her way out of the Camp. The Lady not discouraged at this Reply told him, that his Mother was as much a Hag as she, and if he pleas'd to give her the Liberty of speaking with him in private, she engaged to convince him, and inform him of a Secret that was of the last Importance to his Interest. The King complied, and taking her aside from his Attendants, was impatient to hear this weighty Discovery. Sir, said she, I told you that your own Mother was such a Hag as my self, which is literally true; for I am your Mother, and *Brandubh* the King of *Leinster*, whom you seem resolved to drive out of his Country, is your own Brother; and to evince my Honour and Veracity upon this Occasion, I beseech you to send instantly to your supposed Mother, the Queen Dowager of *Scotland*, who, I am confident, will assert the Truth, and confess that you are my Son; only let me intreat you to cease Hostilities and Outrages upon the Province until the Messenger returns. The King was astonished at this Relation, and thought it of such Importance, that he instantly dispatched a Messenger into *Scotland* to his Mother, and desired she would come to him into *Ireland* with all possible Haste; for her Presence was of absolute Necessity, and concern'd him in the most tender Circumstance of his whole Life. She complied with the Request of her Son, and landing in *Ireland*, was conducted to the Camp. The King of *Scotland* acquainted her with the Occasion of his Message, and the surprising Account he had heard from the Queen of *Leinster*, and desired she would satisfy him in the Truth of the Discovery, and declare upon her Honour whether he was her Son or not. The old Lady openly confessed the whole Intrigue between her and the Queen of *Leinster*, and convinc'd the King in the Point of his Birth, who desired they would keep the Matter secret, lest his Right to the Crown should be disputed, and an Attempt made to prevent the Succession of his

*Brandubh a-  
bui Eogan  
do Seanam  
canabuir  
na na ceile  
anyo 7c.*

Family in the Throne of *Scotland*. For if the Tribe of the *Dailriada* should be inform'd that he was not the Son of the deceased King, they would dispute his Title and disturb his Government. The Ladies bound themselves to Secrecy; a Peace was immediately made, and a strict Friendship established with *Brandubh*, the King of *Leinster*, and *Eogan* withdrew his Forces from the Island, and returned to *Scotland*.

*Niall*, the King of *Ireland*, had eight Sons, who left a numerous Posterity behind them, from whom some noble Families in the Country claim an Extraction at this Day; but it will be improper in this Place to speak particularly of their Offspring and Descendents, because they will be mentioned with more Method, when we treat of the Genealogies and spreading Branches of the *Milesians* or the *Clana Mileadh*. The Reason why this Prince was distinguished by the Title of *Hero of the nine Hostage*, and is called in the *Irish* Language *Niall Naoighiallach*, was because he had *nine Hostages* in his Custody, five from the Provinces of *Ireland*, and four from the Kingdom of *Scotland*, in order to secure the Fidelity of his Enemies in both Countries, who he suspected would offer to raise Commotions, and disturb the Peace of his Reign; for the Word *Giall* in the *Irish* signifies in *English* a *Prisoner* or *Hostage*. This Transaction is upon Record in the Verses of an ancient Poet, who mentions it in this Manner:

Donceill ba  
tugti Mi-  
all naoig-  
allab 3 an  
Nio 10.

*Niall, the martial Hero of the Irish,  
The Son of the renowned Eochaidh,  
By Force of Arms and military Skill,  
Subdued the Rebels, who opposed his Right;  
And, as a Pledge of their Allegiance,  
Detain'd five Hostages of noble Blood.  
And to secure the Homage of the Scots  
He kept confined four Hostages of Note;  
From whence this Prince, the ancient Records call  
The Hero of the nine Hostages.*

A. D. 398. *Dathy* was the succeeding Monarch, he was the Son of *Fiachradh*, Son of *Eochaidh Moighmeodhin*, Son of *Muireadbach Tireach*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and he governed the Kingdom three and twenty Years. His first Consort was *Fial*, the Daughter of *Eachach*, from whom *Feile Cruachan* obtained its Name.

His

His second Queen was *Eithne*, the Daughter of *Orach*, by whom he had a Son called *Oilioll Molt*; his third Wife was *Ruadh*, the Daughter of *Artigh Uchleathan*, the Son of *Fir Conga*, and this Lady was the Mother of *Fiachadh Ealgaigh*; but unfortunately died in Travail. From *Dathy*, King of *Ireland*, descended the noble Families of the *O Sheaghnafe*, Kings of *Vibhsbiachrach*, *O Dowd* in the *Irish* *O Dubhda*, *O Heyn*, Kings of *Aidhne*, *Killkelly* in the *Irish* *Giollachealaigh*, *O Cearaigh*, *O Co-*  
*main*, *O Clierigh*, *O Faby* and many other illustrious Tribes that will be particularly inserted in the Course of this History. This Monarch was distinguished by the Name of *Dathy*, because of his wonderful *Sprighliness* and *Activity* of Body; for he was so accomplish'd, that he handled his Weapons dextrously, and put on his Armor before he was at the Estate of a Man; for the Word *Dathy* in the *Irish* Language signifies *Nimbleness* and *Agility*. This Prince received his Death by a Thunderbolt, as he was pursuing his Conquests in the Dominions of *France*, where he had carried his Arms with great Success. He died near the Foot of the *Alps*, from whence his Army carried his Body with them into *Ireland*, and interr'd it with great Solemnity at *Roilicna Riogh* in *Cruachan*, after he had governed the Island three and twenty Years.

Óiginn o Concubá do ylioí beir mae feághara do ylioí 12 mae Áiléas do éir  
 an leabá go óghaibealá ambeála. Tíoraíe go bpaáas Á Álam.

*The End of the first Book.*





The first of these is the  
 fact that the system is  
 not self-sufficient. It  
 requires a constant supply  
 of raw materials and  
 energy. This is a major  
 problem for the system  
 as a whole. The second  
 problem is the fact that  
 the system is not  
 flexible. It is unable to  
 adapt to changing  
 circumstances. This is a  
 major problem for the  
 system as a whole. The  
 third problem is the fact  
 that the system is not  
 efficient. It wastes a  
 great deal of energy and  
 resources. This is a  
 major problem for the  
 system as a whole.

The fourth problem is the fact that the system is not  
 sustainable. It is unable to maintain itself over the long  
 term. This is a major problem for the system as a whole.

The fifth problem is the fact that the system is not  
 secure. It is vulnerable to attack. This is a major problem  
 for the system as a whole.



S H T



THE  
SECOND BOOK  
OF THE  
GENERAL HISTORY  
OF  
IRELAND:  
GIVING

*An Account of the most memorable Transactions of the ancient Irish; from their Reception of Christianity, to the Invitation of the English in the Reign of Henry the Second, King of England.*



AVING deduced the General History of Ireland from the first Inhabitants of the Kingdom to the Death of *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, in whose Reign *St. Patrick* was brought into the Island, we are now to prosecute the Account of that Nation, till the *English* were introduced by King *Henry the Second*, who went into the Island in Person, and upon Submission of the Nobility and principal



cipal Gentry, confirmed the Inhabitants in their Estates and ancient Liberties.

Ludó Gan  
bannanta  
as Sande-  
pur anyo.

There is an Author, one *Sanders* (whose legendary Writings have ever been rejected by the Lovers of Truth) that has the Confidence to assert in his first Book of the *English Wars*, that as soon as the *Irish* had received the *Christian Faith*, they submitted themselves, their Consciences and Estates, to the Management and Direction of the Bishop of *Rome*, and that they acknowledged no other sovereign Prince in that Kingdom, but the *Roman Pontiff*, from the first Establishment of *Christianity* in the Island, till it fell into the Hands of the *English*, under *Henry the Second*. His Expression is this: *Hibernia initio statim post Religionem acceptam, se suaque omnia in Pontificis Romani ditio- nem dederunt, nec quemque alium supremum Principem Hiberniæ ad illud usque tempus præter unum Pontificem ag- noverunt: The Inhabitants of Ireland immediately upon embracing the Christian Faith surrendered themselves their Estates and Fortunes under the Dominion of the Pope of Rome, nor did they own any other supreme Prince in that Kingdom besides the Roman Pontiff down to that Time.* But the Falshood of this Assertion is evident from the Testimony of that ancient Record, *The Psalter of Cashel*, which, speaking of the Prophet *Irial* a renowned Monarch of *Ireland*, and a Son to *Heremon*, relates, that many of that illustrious Line filled the Throne both before and for many Ages after Christi-

do Nioſcá-  
is eirioſh o  
tes pad-  
craib 50  
feiblime  
mac eirioſh  
cain Nioſcá  
ſhuanan an-  
ro.

anity was received in that Kingdom. His Words upon this Occasion are these: *Irial Propheta per decem annos regnavit, & antequam regula Christi per Patricium seminata esset in Hiberniâ, de semine ejusdem Regis quinquaginta septem Reges regnaverant super Hiberniam, & post Patricium de prole ipsius quinquaginta Reges: Irial the Prophet reigned ten Years, and before the Faith of Christ was propagated in Ireland by St. Patrick, there were fifty seven Kings of his Race, who governed that Kingdom, and after the Times of St. Patrick, there were fifty Kings in Succession of the same Family.* And this Account is consistent with the ancient Records of the Kingdom, which take no Notice of Subjection to the See of *Rome*, but mention in the regal Tables a Succession of Princes of the royal *Irish Blood*, and that the Island was governed independently by its own Kings.

June 12

The

at M

The Author of the *Polycronicon* agrees with the preceding Account: The Words are, *Ab adventu Sancti Patrici usque ad Feidlimidii Regis tempora triginta tres Reges per quadringentos annos in Hiberniâ regnaverunt, tempore autem Feidlimidii, Norvecienses Duce Turgesio terram hanc occuparunt: From the Arrival of St. Patrick to the Times of Feidhlim, there were thirty three Kings, who governed the Kingdom for four hundred Years: In the Reign of this Prince the Norwegians made a Conquest of the Country, under Turgesius their General. Feidhlim was King of Munster, in whose Time the King of Norway transported a Body of hardy Troops, and brought the Island into great Troubles; and from this Citation it appears that the Pope had not the Sovereignty of the Kingdom, but it was governed successively by many Monarchs of the Milesian Race after the Time of St. Patrick till the Invasion of the Norwegians, who are otherwise called Fionnlochlanmuig. The same Author has this Expression in the same Place: *Ad tempore Turgesii usque ad ultimum monarcham Rodoricum Conacia Regem decem & septem Reges in Hiberniâ regnaverunt: From the Time of Turgesius to the Reign of Rodoric the last Monarch in Conacht, there were seventeen Kings in the Throne of Ireland. From these Testimonies it is evident that the Roman Pontiff had not the supreme Authority in the Island from the Time of St. Patrick till the English arrived under Henry the Second, and settled in the Country.**

This Account is farther confirmed by the Testimony of *Anselm*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, who inscribes his thirty sixth Epistle, *Moriardacho glorioso, gratia Dei, Regi Hiberniæ: To the illustrious Moriartach, or Mortough ô Bryen, by the Grace of God, King of Ireland.* This Epistle is to be found in the Works of Archbishop *Usher*, that learned Prelate, who has, with indefatigable Pains, collected the Epistles that were sent between the Clergy of *England* and *Ireland*, and other great Persons of both Nations, and preserved them to Posterity. The same Archbishop *Anselm* wrote another Letter to the same Prince, and calls him expressly the renowned King of *Ireland*; and Archbishop *Lanfranc*, one of his Successors in the See of *Canterbury*, wrote a Letter to *Terlagh ô Bryen*, King of *Ireland*, in the Year one thousand seventy four, and introduces it in this Form, *Lanfrancus peccator & indignus sanctæ Dorobernenfis Ecclesiæ*

*clesia Archiepiscopus, magnifico Regi Hibernie Terdeluaco Benedictionem cum Servizio & Orationibus: Lanfranc. a Sinner and the unworthy Archbishop of the holy Church of Canterbury, to the most magnificent Terlagh, King of Ireland, our Benediction with our Service and Prayers. The learned Usber in the same Book has preserved an Epistle of great Importance upon this Subject, wherein Henry the First, King of England, wrote to Rodolphus, Archbishop of Canterbury, recommending to him for holy Orders one Gregory, that upon Admission into the Priesthood he might be consecrated, at the Request of the King of Ireland, to the Bishoprick of Dublin. This Epistle was written in the Year one thousand one hundred and twenty three, wherein is this Expression: Mandavisti mihi Rex Hibernie per breve suum & Burghenses Dublinæ quod elegerunt hunc Gregorium in Episcopum & eum mittunt tibi consecrandum, unde tibi mando ut petitionem eorum satisfaciens ejus consecrationem sine dilatione impleas: The King of Ireland has given me to understand, that by his Writ and by the Consent of the Burghers of Dublin, this Gregory is chosen to be a Bishop, and they send him to you to be consecrated; my Will therefore is, that you satisfy their Desire by consecrating him without Delay.*

ליתר תיוב  
סבטאן אר  
יט תע.

From what has been said upon this Subject, and from the concurring Testimony of so many Authorities, it appears, that the Kingdom of Ireland was governed by Monarchs of the Milesian Line, till the English invaded and settled in the Country; and it is likewise evident, that the Roman Pontiff had no Right of Sovereignty, nor exercised any Jurisdiction in the Island from the Time of St. Patrick, than what he administered, and laid Claim to in other Nations, in France and Spain, and most of the Countries of Christendom that were govern'd by their own Kings, and paid no Homage to the See of Rome, as to a temporal Prince.

ni natib eur  
na eomat  
as papa na  
Roma 3 er  
mif af na do  
bi 3 an  
bfraine no 3  
an Spain.

It must be confessed, notwithstanding that about seventy seven Years before the English Invitation, Donogh, the Son of Bryen Boirombe, undertook a Journey to Rome, and had a Commission from the principal Nobility and Gentry of the Island to offer themselves as Subjects to the See of Rome, and implored the Protection of the Roman Pontiff; and the Reason of this Act of Submission was because the petty Princes of the Island were continually quarrelling about the Bounds of their Territories, and these Contests had so harassed and im-



poverished the Island, that the Inhabitants chose rather to submit themselves to a foreign Power than be subject to the Tyranny and Oppression of their own Kings; and what seemed to induce the People to offer their Submission to the See of *Rome*, was that the *Pontiff* was not only a spiritual but a temporal Prince, of great Interest and Authority throughout Christendom, and able by his Assistance or Mediation in the Courts of foreign Princes to establish the Peace, and secure the Liberties and Privileges of the Country. But this Surrender of the Island into the Hands of the Pope, is no Evidence to confirm what is asserted by some Authors, who relate, that the Emperor *Constantine*, upon his receiving the *Christian* Faith, confer'd the *Western Isle of Europe*, which is *Ireland*, upon Pope *Sylvester*; which is impossible to be true for this Reason, because this Island was never conquered by the *Romans*, nor in the Possession of *Constantine* or any other Emperor of *Rome*; and therefore it would be ridiculous in that Emperor or any other, to make a Grant of an Island to a Prince, which he had no Right to himself, and was never under his Authority. Nor can it be supposed with Reason, that an Island so fruitful, so populous, so wealthy, and of so considerable an Extent as the Country of *Ireland* should be without a King to command it for so many Ages, but was governed by the *Pope* and by his Deputies, from the Time of *St. Patrick* till the Invasion by the *English*, who subdued it, and made it a tributary Province; but we have been too long in refuting the Falseness of *Sanders*, an Author of no Credit, tho' it was proper to remove this Objection before we proceeded farther in the Course of this History.

*Laogaire* was the succeeding Monarch; he was the Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, and wore the Crown thirty Years; the Mother of this *Irish* King was *Raigbeach*. In the fourth Year of this Prince's Reign, Pope *Celestine* commissioned *St. Patrick* with proper Powers, and sent him into *Ireland* to propagate the *Christian* Faith, and to establish the Inhabitants in the Belief of the Gospel. It was observed before, that *St. Patrick* was brought a Captive from *France* into *Ireland* by *Niall*, in the ninth Year of his Reign, and that this Saint was then a Youth of sixteen Years of Age. *Niall* after his Victories in *France*, and his Return home with his Captives, enjoyed the Crown

eighteen Years: *Datby*, as we have said before, was his Successor, and he reigned three and twenty Years. Now by adding the eighteen Years of *Niall*, after *St. Patrick* arrived in *Ireland*, to the whole Reign of *Datby*, we come to the Number of forty one Years; with which, if we reckon sixteen Years, that was the Age of the Saint when he was carried into Captivity, and join to them four Years of the Reign of *Laogaire*, it is evident that *St. Patrick* was sixty one Years of Age when Pope *Celestine* sent him into *Ireland* to convert the Country, and introduce Christianity among the Inhabitants.

do bi naom  
pabtuos da  
bliauin 7  
re ficeio an  
can fud  
bar.

And to confirm this Computation, we have as Evidence, the concurring Testimony of a Book intituled, *Martyrologium*, which asserts, that *St. Patrick* was sixty and two Years of Age when he died; which proves that his Age was sixty and one Years when he arrived in *Ireland* to execute his Commission, and preach the Gospel; for it is beyond Dispute that he continued in the Country sixty one Years in converting the Inhabitants before his Death. But *St. Patrick* was not the first Person deputed by Pope *Celestine* to recommend the Christian Faith to the *Irish*; for *Palladius*, a Bishop, was sent before him in the Year four hundred and thirty, as the venerable *Bede* in his *English Annals* particularly mentions: His Expression is, *Anno Quadringentesimo tricesimo Palladius ad Scotos in Christum credentes a Celestino Papa primus mittitur Episcopus*: *Palladius was the first Bishop that was sent by Pope Celestine to the Christian Scots*. The Arrival of this Prelate in the Island was in the third Year of the Reign of *Laogaire*, which was the Year preceding the landing of *St. Patrick* as his Successor on the same important Negotiation.

tis palli-  
diur 50 her-  
mih.

*Palladius* in this Expedition was attended by twelve Clergymen; with them he arrived in *Ireland* and landed in the North Part of the Province of *Leinster* at a Place called *Inbber Deaghadh*. Here he erected three Churches, which he consecrated, and dedicated them to three eminent Saints. The first was called *Cillfinne* where he deposited his Books and some valuable Relicts of the Apostles *St. Peter* and *St. Paul*; the second was *Teach na Rombanach*; and the third had the Name of *Domhnach Arda*. When he had finished the Solemnity of Consecration, and before he had an Opportunity of making any Number of Profelytes among the Inhabitants, he

he was seized by *Nathi*, the Son of *Garchon*, a violent Bigot for the old Pagan Religion, who had the principal Command in that Part of the Country, and obliged *Palladius* and his Followers to abandon their Design, and quit the Island to preserve their Lives.

One Year after the Expulsion of *Palladius*, St. *Patrick* <sup>εἰς ἡδονὴν</sup> not discouraged by the ill Fortune of his Predecessor, <sup>παροτρυνθεὶς</sup> came into *Ireland*, and resolving to prosecute his Designs with Vigour and a Christian Zeal, he brought over with him four and twenty of the *Roman* Clergy to assist him in his Undertaking. This Account is in some Measure opposed by *Henricus Antisiodorensis*, who, in the Life of *St. Germanus* in the hundred and twenty eighth Chapter, asserts, that St. *Patrick* brought with him thirty Holy Men of the Episcopal Order, and dispers'd them over the Country. These are the Words of that Author, *Benedictus Patricius itinere longo de regione longinquâ peracto, & præsentia suâ suos exilarabat, & triginta Episcopos ex transmarinis partibus congregatos, & a se consecratos in Domini messiem, eò quod esset multa & operarii pauci, destinabat.* The Blessed St. *Patrick* having finish'd his Journey from a very distant Country, not only <sup>δο οἰκητιὸς</sup> comforted his Followers by his Presence, but he appointed <sup>ἐκείνου δὲ</sup> thirty Bishops whom he had gather'd together from the <sup>ἐκ τῆς ἡλίκης</sup> Parts beyond Sea, after he had consecrated them, into the <sup>παροτρυνθεὶς</sup> Lord's Harvest, because it was great and the Labourers were few. From hence it appears, that St. *Patrick* proposed to himself the Conversion of the whole Island, which it was impossible for him to accomplish in his own Person, and therefore he brought over with him a Number of pious and learned Associates to carry on the Work, and the more effectually to propagate the Faith; and when he arrived in the Country, he inquired after those *Scots*, who had embraced the Gospel from the Preaching of *Palladius*, whom he received into Communion, and ordained Laws and Canons for regulating his Converts, and forming them into Discipline; which Injunctions were religiously observ'd by the *Irish* Christians throughout the Kingdom, for four hundred Years after the Death of St. *Patrick* until the Island was invaded by the *Danes*. About the Time that this *Irish* Apostle enter'd upon the Execution of his Office, there was a Mint erected at *Ardmagh* and *Cashel*, and Money coined for the Service of the State.

28 and 17  
bona fed dñb  
7 cuilleadā  
dubab don  
na mnaib.

*Henricus Antistodorenſis* above-mentioned, in his one hundred ſeventy fourth Chapter, aſſerts, that *St. Patrick* laid out the whole Kingdom into certain Diviſions, and diſpoſed the Inhabitants, their Cattle, their Goods, and all their Effects, into ſuch a Method that he knew the Produce of all the Land, and underſtood the private Fortune, and the Abilities of all the People. The Tenth not only of the Fruits of the Earth but of the Inhabitants, their Cattle and their Subſtance he ſeparated for the Support of the Clergy; the Men he ordained into ſome religious Order of the *Romiſh* Church, the Women he ſettled in Convents and Nunneries by themſelves; for he had erected Monafteries and other Structures for their Reception, and appointed a ſufficient Revenue for their conſtant Support. This Author is expreſs to this Purpoſe, where he delivers himſelf in this Manner: *Omnes ergo mares Monachos, foeminas ſanctas Moniales efficiens, numeroſa Monafteria edificavit, decimanque portionem terrarum ac pecudum eorum ſuſtentationi assignavit.* He built a great Number of Monafteries for the Convenience of the Men whom he made Monks, and of the Women whom he ſeparated as Nuns, and assign'd the tenth Part of the Lands, and of the Cattle for their Maintenance. The ſame Writer obſerves farther upon this Subject, that by the Order and prudent Management of *St. Patrick*, there was not the leaſt Part to be found in the whole Kingdom, that did not abound with religious Perſons of exemplary Piety, whoſe Devotion and Holy Life were admir'd and had in Reverence among the neighbouring Nations, who uſually diſtinguiſh'd the Country of *Ireland* by the Name of the Iſland of Saints.

*Nonnius*, a *Welſh* Author, in his *Hiſtory of Wales* beſtows great Encomiums upon *St. Patrick*, and among other Excellencies of his Character relates, *Eccleſias 355 fundavit, Episcopos ordinavit eodem numero 355; Presbyteros autem uſque ad tria millia ordinavit; He founded three hundred and fifty five Churches, he conſecrated the ſame Number of Biſhops; but for Presbyters he ordained three thouſand of them.* The Teſtimony of this Writer is confirm'd by the Authority of an old Poet, who delivers the ſame Account in the following Lines.

*The Bleſſ'd St. Patrick, with his prieſtly Hands,  
The Rite of Conſecration did confer*



Upon the most religious of his Clergy;  
Three hundred and fifty five in Number.  
He likewise for the Service of the Church  
As many sacred Structures did erect;  
And Presbyters ordain'd three thousand.

If it should seem improbable and not easy to be credited, that so great a Number of Bishops should be consecrated and disposed in the Island at one Time by St. Patrick, let the Testimony of St. Bernard be admitted to take off this Difficulty, who treating in the Life of St. Malachias concerning the ecclesiastical Customs and Discipline originally established in the Irish Church, makes use of this Expression, *Mutantur & multiplicantur Episcopi pro libitu Metropolitanis; ita ut unus Episcopatus uno non esset contentus, sed singula penè Ecclesie singulos haberent Episcopos.* The Bishops are changed and multiplied at the Will and Discretion of the Metropolitan; so that one Bishoprick was not content with one Bishop, but every particular Church was governed by its own particular Bishop. From the Testimony of this Writer it appears, that the Bishops of Ireland were very numerous when Christianity began to be established in the Time of St. Patrick; and indeed the Necessity of the Church, that was then in her Infancy, required the joint Endeavours of many faithful Pastors to compose and qualify the Minds of new Converts, and to guard against the Attempts of the great Enemy of Mankind, whose Kingdom was shaken by the Zeal and Devotion of these Prelates, and in apparent Danger of being overthrown. And, as a farther Evidence upon this Subject, let it be considered, that the ancient Records of the Kingdom inform us, that every Deanery in the Island had a Bishop to preside over it: And the old Chronicles relate, that St. Patrick consecrated two Archbishops in the Country; the Archbishop of Armagh, who was Primate of all Ireland, and the Archbishop of Cashel: The first of these Prelates exercised a Plenitude of Power over the whole Kingdom, especially his Jurisdiction extended over *Leath Cuinn*; the other had Authority over *Leath Morda*, but in Obedience and subordinate to the Primate and Metropolitan. The Reason of this Distribution of ecclesiastical Power seems to be because the Sovereignty of the Kingdom was in Possession of the royal Line of Heremon, of whose



whose Posterity was the Monarch then reigning, *Lao-gaire*, the Son of *Niall*, the renowned Hero of the *nine Hostages*. There were many Personages of Rank and Quality descended from the royal Branches of this Family, who became early Converts to the Christian Faith, and received the Initiation of Baptism from the Hands of *St. Patrick* upon his first Publication of the Gospel. The most eminent of these most noble Profelytes were *Eogan* and *Conall*, who with the principal Relations of his Family insisted, that the metropolitcal Church that was to preside over the Kingdom should be erected and established at *Leath Cinn*, and should have the Precedency, and exercise a Jurisdiction in Spirituals over all the Bishops in the Island; and this Privilege they were the more importunate to obtain, because they had the supreme Command over the Kingdom at that Time, and they were willing that the new Archiepiscopal See should be honoured with the same Rights and Dignities, and be equally extensive with their temporal Power. For the same Reason it was, that the Descendents from the Line of *Heber Fionn* desired and obtained from *St. Patrick* that the See in the second Degree of Jurisdiction and Authority should be appointed in the Division of the Country, which they enjoy'd, and wherein they had the supreme Command; and accordingly the Archiepiscopal Diocese of *Cashel* in *Leath Mòdha* was established, because there lay the Estate of that illustrious Family, who were invested with great Immunities and Privileges in these Parts, which they were in Possession of from the Reign of *Conn*, and exercised under the successive Monarchs of the Kingdom: And this receives an additional Evidence from the Testimony of the most authentick Records of the Island; which not only mention the Archbishop of *Cashel* under the Title of the Archbishop of *Munster*, but likewise he is particularly called the Archbishop of *Leath Mòdha* in the ancient Records.

Some have imagined that *Imlioth Jobhair* was the Seat of an Archbishop in the Time of *St. Patrick*, but the Reason of this Conjecture arose evidently from hence, that the Archbishop and his Clergy of *Cashel* were violently banished from *Cashel* by the victorious *Danes*, who had almost subdued the whole Kingdom, and supported themselves in their Conquests by the most barbarous Outrages and military Executi-

ons. *Maolseacablin*, the Son of *Mulrony* had fixed himself in Possession of *Meath* in the Reign of *Niall Caille* over *Ireland*, and *Okhabhair* had seized upon the Government of *Munster*, and Seated himself in that Province; and *Turgesius*, the *Danish* General, had spread a Terror over the whole Kingdom, and by his Arms was in Command of exceeding large Territories. The Country labouring under the heavy Yoke of these Foreigners, and the Inhabitants flying from their Settlements to preserve their Lives, it may be supposed with great Reason, that *Foranan*, who then was Primate of *Ardmabh*, retired from *Cashel* with his Clergy for their Security, and absconded at *Imlioch Jobhair* to conceal themselves from the Cruelty of the *Danes*, who in their Plunderings, observed no Distinction of sacred Persons and Things, but most dreadfully ravaged the Country, and forced the Inhabitants into Slavery: In this Solitude, that was defended by thick Woods and dangerous Bogs, did this Primate and his College of Clergy take up their Residence during the Tyranny of the merciless *Danes*, which continued a long Time, and reduced these most pious and excellent Divines to great Miseries and Distress.

Nor does it appear from the ancient Annals of the Kingdom, that there were originally constituted any more Archbishops in *Ireland* than the Primate of *Ardmabh* and the Archbishop of *Cashel*. But the Number afterwards increased; for in the Year of our Lord, one thousand one hundred and fifty two, the *Roman* Cardinal *Johannes Papiron* made a Voyage into *Ireland* attended by *Giolla Criost ó Conaire*, Bishop of *Lismore*, who was commissioned with a Legantine Authority from the Pope. When they arrived, they summon'd a general Convocation of the Clergy, and assembled at *Ceananus* in *Meath*; and in this Convention an Archbishop was consecrated for the City of *Dublin*, and another consecrated and appointed for the Diocese of *Tuam*: These Prelates in this ecclesiastical Assembly obtained a *Pallium*, as will be particularly express'd hereafter from the Authority of the *Irish* Annals, that were originally written at *Chlainn Aidnach*.

In the Reign of *Laogaire*, King of *Ireland*, it was, as was before observed, that St. *Patrick* entered upon the Execution of his ministerial Office, and began to introduce the Gospel in the Kingdom; at which Time

gives the same Account in the Verses following, that were compos'd by the celebrated Poet *Torna ó Mulcinaire*.

*His royal Foot transfix'd, the gushing Blood  
Enrich'd the Pavement with a noble Flood.*

*Aongus*, the King of *Munster*, had a numerous Issue; for his Children were four and twenty Sons and as many Daughters; and he shewed that Regard to the Piety and Institutions of *St. Patrick*, that he devoted twelve of each Sex to the Service of God, and confin'd them to a religious and monastick Life. This Prince settled a fixed Revenue upon *St. Patrick* and the Clergy of *Ireland* to secure them from Poverty, and the Contempt of the People; he ordained that every Person that was admitted to Baptism within the Province of *Munster* should pay three Pence for the Service of the Church; but the King considering that it would be inconvenient for the Clergy to collect their Fees themselves, and divert them from the conscientious Discharge of their Office, ordered by Law, that this Tax should be paid into the King's Exchequer, who in consideration of it, obliged himself and his Successors to deliver to the Convents and religious Houses founded by *St. Patrick*, five hundred Cows, five hundred Bars of Iron, five hundred Shirts, five hundred Mantles, and five hundred Sheep, which were to be duly provided every Year for the Support and Maintenance of the Clergy; and this triennial Tribute was constantly paid into the Treasury of the Province, till the Time of *Cormac mac Cuillenan*.

There is an Account to be found in the Red Book of *Mac Eogane*, that *Aongus*, the Son of *Nadfraoich*, King of *Munster*, was a pious Prince, that he retained two Bishops, ten Priests and seventy two Persons of other religious Orders to attend upon him in his Court, to say Mass in his Chapel royal, and to offer up Prayers to Heaven for the Happiness of himself and the whole Kingdom, and this he did by the Direction of *St. Patrick*, who was the spiritual Guide of this Prince, and kept up the Spirit of Devotion in the Court of *Munster*, during the Reign of *Laogaire*, the Son of *Ni-all*, King of *Ireland*.

It was four hundred and thirty Years after the Birth of *Christ* when *St. Patrick* opened his Commission in *Ireland*, which was in the fourth Year of the Reign of *Laogaire*, as before-mentioned. He continued in *Ireland* sixty one Years, propagating the *Christian Doctrines* with Resolution and Success, which Number of Years being added to the four hundred and thirty above, make four hundred and ninety two from the Beginning of the *Christian Æra* to the Death of that *Irish Apostle*; who, as we are inform'd in the Account of his Life, was sixty one Years preaching the Gospel in the Island, and working Miracles for the Confirmation of the Religion he recommended. This Computation is supported by the concurring Testimony of an ancient Poet of good Authority, who has transmitted the Account in these Verses subjoin'd.

*The holy Saint with Zeal and Christian Courage  
Did propagate the Gospel of his Master  
For one and sixty Years, and Miracles  
Perform'd, strong Evidence of Truth.*

If it should be questioned whether there are any such Verses upon Record in the Life of *St. Patrick* that is handed down to the present Times, let it be considered that we are informed by a Manuscript Chronicle of Antiquity, that sixty four Persons have severally written the Life of this reverend Missionary; and no Doubt there is some Difference to be observed in their Relations; therefore it is not to be wonder'd that some particular Transactions and Miracles of that *Saint* are expressed in some of these Lives that are omitted in others; but the Authority of the whole is not to be overthrown for this Reason, which would be a severe Execution, and was never put in Practice in judging of the Truth of other Histories.

In the Reign of *Laogaire* King of *Ireland*, *Dub-thach*, the Son of *Lughair*, a Poet retained by *Feargus*, and *Rosa* the Son of *Trichim*, recommended to *St. Patrick*, the Examination of the Chronicles and Genealogies of the Kingdom, and submitted them to his Correction; but the *Saint* modestly refused to act in a Matter of this Importance, upon his own Judgment, because he was not thoroughly acquainted with the Antiquities

tiquities of the Island, and the Pedigrees of the Families; and therefore he address'd himself to *Laogaire*, and desired him to issue out his royal Mandate for a Convocation of the principal Clergy, Historians and Antiquaries of the Kingdom, and in the Writs to express the Time and Place of their Meeting. The King was well pleased with the Method, and accordingly order'd out his Summons, and the most eminent of the three Professions met and assembled in Convocation. The several Genealogies and the old Records were produced before the Convention, who examined into their Authority with great Care and Exactness, but considering the Number of the Members that compos'd the Assembly, and the Difficulty, and the Time that would be employ'd if every particular Person was to read over the whole, and give his Opinion; it was agreed by Consent, that a select Committee of *Nine* should be appointed, to whom the Purgation and Amendment of the Chronicles should be committed, and their Corrections should receive a Sanction from the whole Assembly. The *Nine* deputed upon this Occasion were three learned Kings, three eminent Prelates, and three of the most accomplish'd Antiquaries: The three Kings were *Laogaire* the Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*; *Daire* King of *Ulster*, and *Cork* King of *Munster*. The Christian Bishops were *St. Patrick*, the pious *Binen*, and the judicious *Cairnach*; the Antiquaries were *Dubhbhach*, *Feargus* and *Rosa*. By this learned Committee were the Genealogies of the principal Families and the ancient Records of the Kingdom carefully examined and purged of all spurious Relations, and then disposed into the Archives of the Island as a venerable and authentick Collection, whose Veracity was to be relied upon, and was never questioned by future Ages, who called this Body of Records the *Great Antiquity*. This Convocation, and the select Committee who had the particular Inspection of these Affairs, are transmitted by an ancient Poet in these Lines that follow.

*The learned Authors of those choice Records  
Which for their Truth are called the Great Antiquity,  
Were nine, selected by the Convocation,  
For Wisdom and Integrity renown'd;  
Three Kings, three Prelate, and three Antiquaries:  
The Prelates were the most devout St. Patrick,*



*The pious Binen, and the wise Cairneach;  
 The Kings, were Laogaire, the Irish Monarch;  
 A Prince in Heraldry exactly skill'd;  
 Join'd with him was the judicious Daire,  
 The warlike King of Ulster; the third  
 A Prince for Letters and for martial Acts  
 Was famous, his Name was Corc, the potent King  
 of Munster: Three Antiquaries next survey'd  
 These old Records, and purg'd them by their Skill;  
 The faithful Dubhthach, and the Sage Feargus,  
 And Rosa, nicely vers'd in foreign Tongues.  
 These nine perus'd the Annals, of their Ancestors,  
 Eras'd the Errors, the Effects of Fraud,  
 Or Ignorance, and by the Test of Truth  
 Examined, they establish'd the Records  
 And every Pedigree of noble Blood;  
 And thus corrected they descend to us  
 Unworthy Issue of our brave Progenitors.*

The Annals and Records being thus perus'd and reform'd by the Care and Learning of this select Committee; the King, by the Consent of the Nobility, ordain'd that they should be committed to the Trust of the reverend Prelates of the Kingdom, who had them transcribed in legible Characters, and laid up in their principal Churches for the Benefit of Posterity. There are many of these venerable Manuscripts preserved to the present Times, and many Copies of them found in the Custody of the curious at this Day: Such are the Book of *Ardmach*, the Psalter of *Cashel*, the Book of *Gleann da loch*, the Book called in the *Irish* Language *Leabhar na Huaidhbhonnabbala*, the Treatise of *Cluain mac Naois*, the Book of *Fiontan Cluana Haighneach*, the yellow Book of *Moling*, the black Book of *Molaiga*, and several ancient Tracts that relate to the Antiquities of the Kingdom, which have afforded great Assistance in the Collection of this History.

And farther, that the Annals, the Genealogies, and Chronicles of the Kingdom might be preserved incorrupt without Falshood or Interpolations, it was establish'd by Law, that the Substance and the most important Transactions should be transcribed once in every three Years into the royal Psalter of *Tara*, after they had been examined and received a Sanction from the Approbation of the great Assembly of the Kingdom. But the particular Account of these triennial Conventions, and the Nature



ture of their Debates, have been mentioned when we spoke of the Reign of *Cormac* the *Irish* Monarch, and therefore will be prosecuted no farther in this Place.

ugbain an  
tyeantury  
abpagan-  
at anyo.

The principal Authors who treated of the Affairs of *Ireland* in the *Pagan* Times were these following; *Amergin Glungead*, *Sean Macaighe*, *Brigh Banughdar*, from whom the Word *Brighe* in the *Irish* Language is become proverbial, *Conla Cain Bhreathnach*, the famous Antiquary of the Province of *Conacht*, *Seanchan Mac Cuil Chlaoin*, and the learned *Fachtna* his Son, *Seanchan*, the Son of *Oiliolla*, *Moran*, the Son of *Maoin*, *Feargus Fianaidhe* in *Kerry*, *Luachra*, *Feircbeairtime*, a celebrated Poet, *Neidhe*, the Son of *Aidhna*, *Atherne*, the Son of *Ambnas*, *Feargus*, a Poet of Note, the Son of *Athirne*, *Neara* the Son of *Fionnchuil* from *Sioduibh*, *Seadamus*, the Son of *Moruinn*, *Fearadhach Fionnsathach*, the principal Author of the *Wisdom of the King of Ireland*, *Fisball Feargus*, a good Poet, *Rosa*, the Son of *Tirchin*, and *Dubhbach o Lugair*; these three last mentioned deliver'd the *Annals* and publick Records of the Kingdom to *St. Patrick* to be revised by him, which he refused to correct by his own Judgment, without the Assistance of the most learned Professors in the Kingdom.

In the Times of Paganism it was ordained by Law, that if any publick Antiquary had deviated from the Truth in any State Record, or in the private Genealogy of a Family, he was immediately degraded and not allowed for the future to act in his Profession: If a Judge thro' Ignorance or Corruption pronounced unjust Judgment, he was never afterwards permitted to sit in the Courts of Justice. And there seems to be good Authority to believe, that there were several concomitant Marks and Symptoms that attended the Sentence of the Judge, either in his own Person or in some other remarkable way, whereby it was publicly known whether the Decree pronounced was consistent with Justice or not; particularly we are informed by good Evidence, that when an *Irish* Judge, called *Sean Macaighe*, delivered an unjust Sentence, there broke out visibly many large Blisters upon his right Cheek, but when he was upright in his Judgment, the Skin remained smooth, and no Pustules appeared.

The celebrated *Connla Caoin Breathnach* administered Justice with the strictest Equity, was Proof against the Corruption of Bribes, and delivered his Sentence without Affection or Prejudice. *Seancha Macuil* was a Person of consummate Wisdom and Integrity, and when he presided in Courts of Justice, and was to pronounce his Decree, he always fasted the Night before, and when his Son *Fachna*, who was a Judge in those Times, was unjust in his Decision of Causes, if it was in the Time of Harvest, a very remarkable Event ensued; for upon the Night following all the Acorns would fall from the Trees in that Part of the Country, which was a great Misfortune to the Inhabitants; and if his Decree was consistent with Justice, no Calamity ensued, but the Oaks retained their Fruit: It was observed, that if a Judge was corrupt in his Administration in the Spring, when the Trees were in Blossom, the Cows forgot their natural Instinct, and would not bear their Calves to remain near them: And the famous *Moran*, the Son of *Mavin*, who was one of the principal Judges of the Kingdom, when he sat upon the Bench to administer Justice, put the miraculous Chain, called in the *Irish* Language *Jodha Morain*, about his Neck, which was attended with that wonderful Vertue, that if the Judge pronounced an unjust Decree, the Chain would instantly contract itself, and encompass the Neck so close, that it would be almost impossible to breath, but if he delivered a just Sentence, it would open it self, and hang loose upon the Shoulders.

A certain distinguish'd Evidence of Truth or Falshood was likewise observed to attend upon the Historians and public Notaries of the Kingdom, which restrained them from corrupting the genuine Chronicles or altering the Genealogies of private Families; but the particular Signs that followed cannot be discovered at this Distance of Time, because many Records of Moment are lost, from whence we might expect Information upon this Subject: However we have the same Evidence to prove the Authority of the *Irish* Annals, and the public Manuscripts, as is esteemed sufficient to confirm the Histories of other Nations; and perhaps it would be no more than Truth to affirm, that no People except the *Jews*, whose Writers were divinely inspired, have more genuine or earlier Accounts of the Concerns of their Ancestors than the Chronicles and ancient Records that give Being to the

the present History; and for this Reason among many others, because no Nation in the World could possibly be more exact in preserving their Records, and transmitting them uncorrupt to Posterity than the ancient *Irish*, especially considering they were corrected and confirmed by the most pious and learned Prelates of the *Christian* Church in that Kingdom.

*Laogaire*, the Son of *Niall*, King of *Ireland*, summon'd a great Convention to assemble at *Tara* after the Custom of his Ancestors; and when the principal Nobility, Gentry and the most learned Antiquaries met at the Time and Place appointed, the ancient Laws and Records were read over, and when they were purged and corrected, and the new Statutes were transcribed and added, they were deposited in the most sacred Archives as a Body of Laws to be consulted upon Occasions for the Administration of Justice, for the Government and public Happiness of the Kingdom.

When this Parliament assembled, the King of *Ireland* kept his Court in a royal Palace, which was appointed only for his own Use and the Reception of his Attendants, and this was called the House of *Miodb-chuarta*: The King of every Province in the Island had likewise a House assigned for the Convenience of himself and his Retinue: The King of *Munster* lived in the House called in the *Irish* Language *Lung Muimbneach*; for the Word *Lung* signifies a House, which being joined to *Muimbneach*, implies the *Munster House*: The King of *Leinster* had for his Use *Lung Laighneach* or the *Leinster House*: The House where the King of *Conacht* resided was known by the Name of *Coisrcho-nachtach*; and the Palace of the King of *Ulster* was called *Eachruis Uladh*.

There were three other Houses at *Tara* that were built for the Use of the Publick; the first was called *Caircair na Ngiall*, which was a strong Building, where the state Prisoners were kept and secured; the second was called *Realta Nabhfíleadh*, where the Judges, the Antiquaries and the Poets of the Kingdom assembled to decide Suits at Law, to impose Fines and Punishments upon Delinquents, and to regulate and adjust the Customs of the Country; the third was a noble Edifice, called *Grianan na Ningbean*, where the Provincial

*Queens*

do teac  
Eac Niof  
coigeadac  
anyo 7c.

Queens and the Ladies their Attendants resided during the Assembly, and kept a very splendid Court. But notwithstanding this Structure was only one House, yet every Princess had a separate Apartment magnificently fitted up; which contributed in a great Measure to the Splendor and Gallantry of that triennial Convention.

The Provincial Kings, it has been observed, had their separate Houses during the sitting of the Parliament at *Tara*; but when they assembled upon the Business of the Kingdom, and to enact or repeal Laws for the Benefit of the publick, they met in the great House of *Miodbchuart*, where there was a most noble Room of State, where every Member of the Assembly sat according to his Profession and his Quality, without Disputes of Precedency or Disturbance.

In the Middle of the Room there was a Throne erected, and under the Canopy was placed the royal Chair, where the King of *Ireland* always sat with his Back to the East. The Situation of the House, it must be observed, was directly East and West. Upon the left Hand of the Monarch, sat the King of *Munster*; the King of *Leinster* sat before the King with his Face towards the Throne; the King of *Conacht* sat behind his Back, and the King of *Ulster* sat upon the King's Right Hand toward the North; the principal Nobility and Gentry of each Province had their Places near the Kings they belonged to; so that the whole Assembly made a most solemn and splendid Appearance. The Manner of the Sitting of this Parliament is upon Record in the Writings of a learned Antiquary in the following Verses.

*The Irish Monarch on a royal Throne,  
Conspicuous sat, in the Middle of the House;  
The Prince of Leinster in a Chair of State  
Was plac'd; but with his Back to the Assembly,  
His Face towards the King; behind the Throne  
The Prince of Conacht sat; towards the South  
Upon the King's left Hand, the Prince of Munster  
Grac'd the Assembly; and upon the Right  
Sat in his splendid Robes the Prince of Ulster.*

*Laogaire*, the King of *Ireland* was disturbed in his Government by *Criomthan*, the Son of *Eana Cinsalach*, who with the Assistance of the Provincial Troops of *Leinster*, fought with the *Irish* Army the memorable

R r r

Battel

at Aca  
dara idin  
Crimthan  
mae Gang  
Cinsalach 7  
Rios epioh.



Battel of *Ath Dara*, where the King's Forces were defeated with terrible Slaughter, and himself taken Prisoner. *Criomthan* having the King in his Power would not give him his Liberty, unless he would promise and engage with the most solemn Oaths and Imprecations, that he would never attempt to get Possession of *Boi-roimbe*, or challenge any Right to it. The King, being in his Enemy's Power, thought proper to submit to the Conditions, and bound himself under the Obligation of the strictest Oaths: But when he was released he broke through his Engagements, which he insisted were the Effects of Necessity, and extorted from him by military Violence. But the Vengeance of Heaven ever attending upon the Guilt of Perjury, would not be eluded by such sophistical Evasions; and therefore by a Thunderbolt put an End to the Life of the unfaithful King at *Greallach Dabhuill* near *Liffey*, as we are inform'd by an old Poet in this Manner.

*Laogaire, the Son of the renowned Niall,  
Was struck from Heaven in the delightful Plains,  
Near Liffey's fruitful Stream, to Death devoted,  
For violating the Bonds of solemn Oaths.*

This was the End of that unfortunate Prince, design'd by Heaven as a perpetual Example to succeeding Kings, who trifle with Treaties and Oaths, and imagine they have a dispensing Power to cancel the Obligations of them at their own Pleasure, or when that wicked Engine, called *Reasons of State*, seems to require it.

The Consort of *Laogaire* was *Aongus*, Daughter to the General, who commanded the Army of King *O Liathain*, by which Lady he had a Son, whose Name was *Lughaidh*. There is a Relation inserted in some old Manuscripts concerning this Princess and her Son, which without Doubt is owing to the Bigotry and Superstition of those early Times, which had that Veneration for *St. Patrick*, that almost every Action of his Life was esteemed a Miracle; this Transaction that follows, it must be observed, is not designed to gain Belief, nor is it proposed by relating it in this History to put it upon the same Foot of Certainty and Credit with other Particulars, though nothing is impossible to God Almighty; but as it was the Foundation of an ancient Custom

Custom practised to this Day by the genuine *Irish*, and not otherwise to be accounted for, it must not be omitted absolutely: The Story therefore is this.

St. *Patrick*, attended by the principal of the *Irish* Clergy, made a Visit to the Consort of *Laogaire*, who received them with great Courtesy and Goodness, and when she had assured them of her Esteem and the Continuance of her Favour, she invited them to an Entertainment that was to be provided on Purpose as a Testimony of her Respect; for the Queen, it must be considered, was baptized by St. *Patrick* upon her Marriage, and from that Time had the *Saint* in great Veneration. The young Prince was placed near his Mother at the Table, who being hungry, and eating hastily, he unfortunately attempted to swallow a large Morsel, but after all his Endeavours, it stuck fast in his Throat and stopped his Breath. The whole Company was astonished at this Misfortune, the Court was in Confusion, and the Queen particularly was overwhelmed with Grief and was utterly inconsolable. All Methods were used to open the Passage, but without Success; so that the Prince was given over for lost beyond Recovery. The Queen finding all human Methods ineffectual, address'd her self to St. *Patrick*, and implored his Assistance in this Distress, whose Prayers to Heaven she thought would restore her Son, notwithstanding he seemed expiring, and in the very Agonies of Death. The *Saint* immediately ordered the Youth to be removed into another Apartment, where no Person was to be admitted but himself. By this Time the Prince to all Appearance was quite dead; which was so far from discouraging the Endeavours of St. *Patrick*, that he applied himself by fervent Prayer to Heaven for the Space of three Days and three Nights, and continued in that supplicating Posture without Intermission, or refreshing himself by eating or drinking; for he justly thought, that the Duty of fasting was a necessary Attendant upon the Act of Prayer, and added an irresistible Force to Devotion. Upon the third Day (as some legendary Writer has corrupted the Story, which hitherto is far from being incredible) St. *Michael* the Archangel, conveyed himself into the Apartment; where St. *Patrick* was prosecuting his Request with great Perseverance and Importunity, and stood before him in the Shape of a *Pigeon*. The *Dove* immediately accosted

ed the *Saint*, and after he had informed him, that he was the Archangel *Michael* under that humble Appearance, he told him, that the Almighty God had heard his Prayers for the Recovery of the Prince, and had sent him with a Commission to restore him to Life: The *Pigeon*, having declared the Subject of his Message, removed to the Body of the Prince, who lay stretch'd at length upon his Back with his Mouth wide open, a Posture very convenient for the Operation that was to follow; for the *Dove*, it seems, without any Difficulty, thrust his Bill down the Throat where the Stoppage was, and dextrously drew out the Morfel that stopp'd the Breath, and the Prince immediately revived. The *Pigeon*, having executed his Business, convey'd himself away without any Ceremony, and vanished out of Sight.

St. *Patrick*, leading the young Prince by the Hand into the Presence of the Queen, presented him alive; and she was so transported with Joy, that she received him upon her Knees, and in that submissive Posture returned her Thanks to the *Saint* for his unwearied Application to Heaven, and congratulated him upon the Success of his Prayers. But he with great Modesty refused to take upon himself the Merit of the Action, and relating to her the particular Circumstances of his Recovery, told her, that she ought to express her Gratitude to *Michael* the Archangel, who was the great Physician that restored the Prince. The Queen was so affected with the Account, that she obliged herself by a most solemn Vow never to forget the Favour, and as an Acknowledgement to St. *Michael*, she promised to bestow annually one Sheep out of every Flock she had, and a Part of all the Provision that came to her Table upon the poor during her Life. And to perpetuate the Memory of this miraculous Recovery of the young Prince, and in Honour to the Archangel, who effected his Cure, it was ordained by Law, that all the *Christian* Converts throughout the Kingdom of *Ireland* should conform to the Practice of the Queen, and constantly offer the same Oblations. And in Obedience to this Injunction arose the Custom of killing *Saint Michael's Sheep*, called in the *Irish* Language *Cuid Mbichill*, observed to this Day; for it is most certain, that every Family, upon the nine and twentieth of *September*, which is the Anniversary Festival in Ho-

don Edouye  
michil dayo.

nour of St. *Michael*, at least of the ordinary Sort of People kill a *Sheep*, and bestow the greatest Part of it upon relieving the poor. This is the Relation; which is impossible to be true in every Circumstance, yet so much of it may deserve Credit, that the young Prince, the Son of *Laogaire*, was by some Accident in apparent Hazard of his Life, and was recovered by the Care and Advice of St. *Patrick* upon *Michaelmas* Day; in Memory of which Deliverance, the Queen, from a Principle of Piety, did bestow such yearly Charities upon the poor, whose Example was followed by the whole Kingdom, and is religiously observed by many Families to this Day.

*Oilioll Molt* succeeded *Laogaire* in the Throne of Ire- A. D. 453.  
land; he was the Son of *Datby*, the Son of *Fiachadh*,  
Son of *Eochaidh Moighemeadhoin*, descended from the  
royal Line of *Heremon*, and he governed the Island  
twenty Years. The Consort of this Prince was *Ucht-eicne ingean*  
*dealbh*, the Daughter of *Aongus*, Son of *Nadfraoch*; *Onac matg*  
and the Reason why he was distinguished by the Name *Oilioll*  
of *Oilioll Molt*, was because his Mother, whose Name  
was *Eithne*, when she was big with Child of him, long-  
ed passionately for a Piece of *Wether Mutton*; she com-  
municated her Desire to a Gentlewoman, call'd *Fial*,  
the Daughter of *Eochaidh Sedaigh*, who came to visit  
her when she was near her Delivery, and when the  
Child was born the Lady insisted that his Name should  
be *Oilioll Molt*. It was in the Reign of this Prince *an dmyr*  
that *Amalgaidh*, the Son of *Fiachrach*, Son of *Eochaidh* *an r-ois ro*  
*Moighneodhoin* was King of *Conacht*, who died after he *fuad na fclan*  
had governed the Province twenty Years. In his Time *taroin bar*.  
likewise *Muireadbach Mundearg* was King of *Ulster*, who  
died after a Reign of twelve Years; this Provincial  
Prince was the Son of *Feargna*, Son of *Dullain*, Son of  
*Dubhthaig*, Son of *Mianaigh*, Son of *Lughaidh*, Son of  
*Aongus Fionn*, Son of *Feargus Dubhdheadhach*.

This *Irish* Monarch, soon after he was proclaimed, thought it convenient to assemble the Convention of the States, at the royal Palace of *Tara*, after the Example of precedent Kings. And here it may be proper to observe, that in ancient Times there were three general Convocations held in the whole Kingdom of *Ireland*; they were distinguished by the Names of the Convocation of *Tara*, the Convocation of *Eamhain*, and the Convocation of *Cruachain*. The first of these

has been particularly described in the foregoing Part of this History, the two others deserve our Notice in this Place.

It must be observed therefore, that the Conventions of *Eamhain* and *Cruachan* were appointed to examine and inspect into the Tradesmen and Mechanicks, to determine of their Abilities in their several Crafts, and to regulate their Occupations. This Assembly consisted of some of the Principal Nobility and Gentry, with the most learned Antiquaries of the Kingdom; and when they met, they selected threescore, who were the most expert in their several Professions, and commissioned them with a Power to separate and disperse themselves throughout the Island, and to take Cognizance of the Accomplishments, the Industry or Imperfections of the several Tradesmen within their respective Jurisdictions; and without an express License from one of these Commissioners, no Mechanick could exercise his Art or work publicly at his Trade in any Part of the Country. These were the principal Affairs concerted in these Assemblies, which were of great Use towards the Improvement of Ingenuity, Industry, and Trade, and promoted Order and Uniformity among the People.

There is a Manuscript extant of great Antiquity, called *Leabhar Oiris*, that mentions this *Irish* Monarch *Oilioll Molt* under the Title of King of the *Scots*; and in the Reign of this Prince it was, that *Benignus* a *Combarbha* of *St. Patrick*, that is, a Clergyman of a religious Order ordained by that Missionary, departed this Life. This King was engaged in a War with the People of *Leinster*, and he fought the memorable Battel of *Tuma Aichir* with the Inhabitants of that Province, in which Action many gallant Soldiers perished, and the Fight concluded with incredible Slaughter on both Sides. In the Reign of this King, *Ambrosius*, King of *Wales*, had many Encounters with the *Scots* and *Picts*; and about this Time *Conall Creamhtuine* died, as did likewise *Jarlainbe*, the third Bishop of *Ardmagh*, when *Simplicius* was Pope over *Rome*. This *Oilioll Molt* did not enjoy the Crown by Right of Succession; for *Lughaidh*, the Son of *Laogaire*, was the hereditary Prince, who promoted his Title by the Sword, and was supported in his Pretensions to the Crown by *Mortough*, Son of *Earca*, *Feargus Cearbheoil*, *Conall Creamhtuine*, and by *Fiachadh*

do ērē oīl-  
oll molt ae-  
cat oīa 7ē.

olige aguf  
cun d c-3-  
adpab an-  
ro.



*achadh Lonn*, the Son of *Caolbhadh*, King of *Dailraidhe*, who raised a numerous Army; and when they had joined the young Prince, they ingaged the King's Army, and fought the Battel of *Ocha*, where *Oilioll Molt* was defeated and slain.

Twenty Years after *Lughaidh* obtained this Victory, the six Sons of *Eochaidh Munrambar* went to *Scotland*, they were known by the Names of the two *Aongus's* the two *Loarns*, and the two *Feargus's*. It was the Distance of three hundred Years from the Reign of *Connor*, the Son of *Neasa*, to the Time of *Cormac*, the Son of *Art*; and two hundred and four Years had past from the Reign of *Cormac* to the remarkable Battel of *Ocha*; twenty Years after which Engagement the Sons of *Eirt*, the Son of *Eochaidh Munrambar*, transported themselves into *Scotland*. At this Time *Duachgálach*, the Son of *Bryen*, the Son of *Eochaidh Moidbmeodhoir*, governed the Province of *Munster*, he reigned seven Years, and fell by the Sword of *Eochaidh Tormcharna*.

*Lughaidh* succeeded to the Crown of Ireland; he was A. D. 473. the Son of *Laogaire*, the Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and his Reign continued twenty Years. At this Time *Fraoch*, the Son of *Fionchad*, was King over the Province of *Leinster*; and now it was that the Battel of *Cill Osnach* was fought at *Moigh Fea* in the County of *Cabarlo*, four Miles Eastward of *Leitblin*: In this Action *Aongus*, the Son of *Nadfraoich*, who had been King of *Munster* thirty six Years, lost his Life; his Wife also, whose Name was *Eibne Uathach*, the Daughter of *Crimbthan*, Son of *Eana Cinsalach*, was slain by *Mortough*, the Son of *Earca*, and *Oilioll* the Son of *Dunluing*, as a Poet of sufficient Credit informs us in these Lines.

*The martial Prince, Aongus, Son of Nadfraoich,  
Fought in Cill Osnach's bloody Field, and fell  
By the victorious Sword of Oilioll,  
Son of Dunluing.*

After this Action, *Fraoch*, the Son of *Fionachuidhe*, Son to the King of *Leinster*, was slain in the Battel of *Graine*, by *Eochadh*, the Son of *Cairbre*. In the tenth Year of the Reign of this Irish Monarch, *Felix*, the third of the Name, was elected Pope of *Rome*, and near the same Time was fought the Battel of *Eambna*

by *Cairbre*, Son of *Neill*, who afterwards engaged in the Battel of *Cinnailbhe*, in the Province of *Leinster*. About this Time *Mochaon Naoidroma* died, and by *Cairbre* above mention'd was fought the famous Battel of *Seaghfa*, where *Duach Teangamhadh*, the King of *Connacht*, was slain by *Mortough*, the Son of *Earca*, as the following Lines particularly testify.

*The martial Prince Duach Teangamha*  
*Engag'd in the three memorable Battels*  
*Of Dealga Muchroma, Tuama,*  
*And Seaghfa.*

oul fegh-  
 17 moyn mae  
 egea go  
 halbain an  
 70 7c.

About this Time it was, that the Inhabitants of the Province of *Leinster* engaged with a gallant Army against *Jobh Neill*, and fought the Battle of *Loch Moighe*, where there was much Blood spilt, and a desperate Slaughter on both Sides; and now it was that *Feargus More*, the Son of *Earca*, follow'd by the *Dailriada's*, made an Attempt upon the Kingdom of *Scotland*, and arrived at great Authority in that Country. In the fourteenth Year of the Reign of *Lughaidh*, the Son of *Laogaire*, King of *Ireland*, *St. Patrick* died, after he had by indefatigable Zeal and Industry propagated the *Christian* Faith, and extended his Conquests over the *Pagan* Idolatry through the greatest Part of the Island; the Age of this *Saint* was an hundred and twenty two Years. The King of *Ireland* did not long survive him, but died soon after by a Stroke with a Thunder-bolt, which was the Instrument of Vengeance used by Heaven to punish him for opposing the Preaching of *St. Patrick*, and suppressing to the utmost of his Power the Doctrines of Christianity, and preventing their Admission among his People. *Gelasius* was the Pope of *Rome* in the last Year of the Reign of *Lughaidh* King of *Ireland*.

A. D. 493.

*Mortough* obtained Possession of the Government; He was the Son of *Muireadbach*, Son of *Eogan*, Son of *Niall* the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and he fill'd the Throne twenty four Years. The Mother of this *Irish* Monarch was *Earca*, the Daughter of *Loare*, who came from *Scotland*. In the beginning of the Reign of this Prince was born the Pious *Ciaran*, whose Father was a Carpenter, but of eminent Extraction, and derived from the Posterity of *Ir*,  
 the

Cig an mae  
 an 74:17  
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the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*. This *Cuaran* was a Person devoted to a religious Life, and his Name is often mention'd with Honour in the Book that treats of the Lives of the *Irish* Saints. In the fourth Year of the Government of *Mortough*, *Anastatius*, the second of that Name, was elected Pope; and about this Time the famous *Comhgall Beannchoir* was born, and in Process of Time became an Abbot of that Note and Authority, that he had forty thousand religious Monks under his Jurisdiction and Command; the Character of this religious Person, and the Extent of his Power, is particularly express'd in the Book call'd *Leabhar Ruadh Mac Eagame*, the Authority of which Relation comes recommended by the concurring Testimony of St. *Barnard*, a Writer of Reputation, who, in the Life of St. *Malachias*, gives an Account that an eminent Disciple (whose Name was *Roanus*,) who had been educated under this *Comhgall* was sent abroad by the Holy Abbot, who, he says, had erected a hundred religious Houses; and mentions the Particulars of his Descent, that he was of the Posterity of *Iriall* the Son of *Conall Cearnach*, Son of *Amergin*, of the illustrious Tribe of *Clanna Rugh-ruidhe*, descended from *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*. This Relation is farther supported by an ancient Poem extracted from the *Chronicle of Saints*, where- in are these Verses.

*The most religious Comhgall Beannchoir*  
*Son of Scadhna, with undaunted Courage*  
*Met the Approach of Death; with Christian Bravery*  
*His Soul surrender'd, and approv'd himself*  
*Descended from the royal Line of Ir.*

Near this Time died *Anastatius*, the Roman Emperor; and the pious St. *Caineach Achadh Bo* left the World; This Devotionist was descended from *Feargus*, the Son of *Raogh*, derived from the royal Stem of *Ir*, the Son of *Milesius*, King of *Spain*. In the Reign of *Mortough*, King of *Ireland*, was born that great Example of Piety *Collum Cill*, the Son of *Feidhlin*, Son of *Feargus*, Son of *Conull Gulban*, Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the nine Hostages. About this Time died the most religious St. *Bridget*; this excellent Person was the Daughter of *Dubbthaig*, the Son of *Dreimne*, Son of *Breafal*, Son of *Dein*, Son of *Connla*, Son of *Art*, Son of *Cairbre Niadh*,

*Niadh*, Son of *Cormac*, Son of *Aongus More*, Son of *Eathach Fionn Fuathnairt*, Son of *Féidblimídh Reachtmair*, Son of *Tuathal Teachtmair*, of royal Extraction, and descended from the Line of *Heremon*. She died after she had lived eighty seven, or according to another Computation, seventy Years.

In the tenth Year of the Reign of *Mortough*, King of *Ireland*, *Symmachus* was elected Pope, and presided in the Primacy fifteen Years and eight Months. In the twenty first Year of this Reign *Hormisdas* succeeded in the Pontificate, and lived four Years after his Election. About this Time the dead Body of the Blessed *Antoninus*, a most religious Monk, was miraculously found and convey'd to *Alexandria*, and solemnly interr'd in the Church dedicated to *St. John the Baptist* in that City. *Mortough* met with great Disturbances and Opposition in his Government, and in one Year was obliged to engage in the following memorable Battels, the Battel of *Cinneich*, the Battel of *Almaine*, the Battel of *Cliach*, the Battel of *Eibhline*, and the Battel of *Moighe Hailbhe*; not long after this last Action *Mortough* died at the House of *Cheithigh*; and near the same Time the devout *St. Ailbhe Imiligh* was translated to a better Life.

A. D. 515. *Tuathal Maolgarbh* succeeded in the Throne; He was the Son of *Cormac Caoch*, Son of *Cairbre*, the Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, descended from the renowned Posterity of *Heremon*; and governed the Island thirteen Years; The Mother of this Monarch was *Comaoin*, the Daughter of *Dall Bronuigh*, and he was particularly distinguish'd by the Name of *Tuathal Maolgarbh*, because his Mother, as soon as she was deliver'd of him, struck his Head against a Stone (as a sort of Charm upon which his future Fortune was to depend;) the Blow made an Impression, and occasion'd a Flatness in his Skull, which was the Reason that gave him the Title of *Tuathal Maolgarbh*. In the Reign of this *Irish* Monarch, *Moctius*, a Person of exemplary Piety, and one of the Disciples of *St. Patrick*, died, after he had lived, as the Chronicles assert, three hundred Years. Under the Government of this Prince *Baoithin*, a Scholar of *Collum Cill* was born; and, it must be observ'd, that *Collum Cill* and *Baoithin* were nearly related; for they were Brother's Children. About this Time *Comhgall*, the King of *Scotland*, departed the present Life, and the devout

devout *Mobi*, a very excellent Person, died near the same Time; he was otherwise call'd by the Name of *Bearchain*, a celebrated Prophet, extracted from the Posterity of *Fiachadh Baiceada*, the Son of *Cathaoir More*. The noted Battel of *Tortan* was fought by the People of the Province of *Leinster* in the Reign of *Tuathal Maolgarbh*, in which Engagement *Earca*, the Son of *Oiliolla Molt*, from whom came *Firceara*, lost his Life. The Battel of *Sligo* was fought not long afterwards; by the two young Princes *Feargus* and *Daniel*, the two Sons of *Mortough*, Son of *Earca*, in which bloody Action *Eogan Beal*, who had govern'd the Province of *Conacht* thirty five Years, was unfortunately slain. About this Time died the excellent *Oghran*, the Saint of *Leath-ruidh*, who descended lineally from the Posterity of *Conaire*, the Son of *Modha Lamba*; and the most religious *Ciaran*, the Carpenter's Son, was cut off in the Blossom of his Age, having lived no more than one and thirty Years.

In the Reign of this *Irish* Monarch it was, that a *Bacach*, which in the *Irish* Language signifies a *sturdy Cripple*, had his Head struck off from his Shoulders by the Vengeance of Heaven, as a Punishment for swearing falsely, by the Hand of *Ciaran*; and this Execution, by the Appointment of Providence, happened at the great Fair of *Tailtean*, in the Sight of innumerable Spectators.

*Tuathal Maolgarbh* soon after was slain by *Maolmor*, the Son of *Niathair*, at the Request and Instigation of *Diarmuid*, the Son of *Feargus Ceirbeoil*, at a Place called *Grealladh Eily*. In the Reign of this Monarch *Guai-re*, the Son of *Colman*, took upon him the Command of the Province of *Conacht*, and fixed himself in the Throne after the Death of *Eogan Beal*, notwithstanding the deceased Prince had a Son, whose Name was *Ceallach*, who had entred himself into a religious Order under the Tuition of *Ciaran*, with a Design to devote himself to a pious and monastick Life: But by the Persuasion and Importunity of his Friends in the Province, who resolved to assert and support his Right, this young Devotionist was prevailed upon to leave his Cell, and appeared at the Head of a good Body of Forces, who determined to proclaim and establish him in the Throne of *Conacht*; *Ciaran* soon missed him out of his Monastery, and cursed him with a most dreadful



ful Imprecation, and implored Heaven to blast his Designs by cutting him off by a sudden and untimely Death. *Ceallach* had Intelligence of the severe Resentment of *Ciaran*, and dreading the Influence of his Prayers, he hastned to the Convent, and prostrating himself with the most humble Submission at the Feet of the Abbot, he promised to pay him implicit Obedience for the future Part of his Life, and to engage in nothing without his Approbation and Consent. The compassionate *Ciaran*, imputing his Conduct to the Folly of Youth, and the Importunity of his Friends, immediately gave him his Pardon and his Benediction; but assur'd him withal, that his Prayers were sealed in Heaven by an irreversible Decree, and that his Death would be violent and unexpected. This Answer surpris'd the young Votary, who applied himself for the rest of his Life to Piety and charitable Acts, and continued in the Monastery under the Care of *Ciaran*, till at length his Merits advanc'd him into a Bishoprick in the Country. But tho' he had relinquish'd his Pretences to the Government of *Conacht*, and resolv'd to sequester himself from temporal Affairs, yet he was willing that the Crown of that Province should descend to his Family; and accordingly he us'd all possible Endeavours to establish an Interest, and place his younger Brother in the Government. But *Guaire*, by the Industry of his Spies, had Notice of his Preparations and Designs, and imagining his Reign would never be free from Tumults and Pretences so long as *Ceallach*, who was a politick and indefatigable Person, was on this side the Grave; he by sufficient Rewards prevail'd upon three of the Bishop's own Servants to dispatch him, which they basely executed upon the first Opportunity. Thus fell this noble Prelate, and accomplish'd the Prediction of *Ciaran*, who foretold his Death, which Heaven inflict'd for renouncing his religious Vow, and attempting a secular Life after most solemn Engagements to the contrary.


do m3b3b  
ceallac ab-  
feall tpe  
impre g3u3e  
mde col-  
mdn.

A. D. 528. *Diarmuidh* succeeded to the Crown of Ireland; he was the Son of *Feargus Ceirbheoil*, the Son of *Conall Creamh-thaine*, Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the nine Hostages, descended from the royal Stock of *Heremon*, and governed the Kingdom two and twenty Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Corbbach*, the Daughter of *Maine* of the Province of *Leinster*; and in his Reign died the pious

pious *Tigearnach*, the Bishop of *Cluain Eos*, derived from the Family of *Daire Barrach*, Son of *Cathaoir More*. And about the same Time expired *Oilioll*, the Son of *Mortough*, that governed the Province of *Leinster* nine Years, in whose Reign *Cormac* the Son of *Oilioll*, Son of *Muireadbach*, Son of *Eochaidh*, Son of *Daire Cearb*, Son of *Oilioll Flan Beag*, was King of *Munster*.

The memorable Battel of *Cuill Conaire* was fought at *Ceara* near this Time by the two Princes, *Feargus* and *Daniel*, the Sons of *Mortough*, Son of *Earca*, where *Oilioll Jonbhanda*, the King of *Conacht*, and his Brother *Aodh Fortambail* were unfortunately slain. In the Reign of *Diarmuid* a most dreadful Plague hapned that overspread the whole Kingdom of *Ireland*, and made terrible Devastations among the People, especially among the Saints and the Religious of the Kingdom; particularly *Mac Tuil* of *Cil Cuilin* was carried off in this Visitation, which, by Way of Distinction was called *Crom Chonuill*. About this Time was fought the bloody Battel of *Cuill*, where great Numbers of the Inhabitants of the County of *Cork* perished; and it is said, that the bad Success of this Engagement was owing to the Prayers of a most pious Lady, call'd *Suidhe Midhe*, that was descended from the Posterity of *Fiachadh Suidhe*, the Son of *Feidhline Reachtmar*, and occasioned the Defeat by soliciting Heaven for Revenge upon that People, who had injuriously treated her, and used her unbecoming her Descent and her Character. The King of *Ulster*, who had governed that Province two and twenty Years, and was the first King of *Dail-naruidhe*, died about this Time. The Name of this Prince was *Eochaidh*, and he was the Son of *Connla*, Son of *Caolbhadh*, Son of *Cruin Badhraoi*, Son of *Eochaidh Cobha*. *Cormac* the Son of *Oilioll* King of *Leinster*, died under the Government of *Diarmuid*, as did likewise the noted Prophet *Beg Mac De*.

In the same Reign was born the most devout *St. Molua*; He was the Son of *Sinil*, Son of *Amergin*, Son of *Eirinn*, Son of *Duach*, Son of *Bryen*, Son of *Eochaidh Moighmeadhan*, at which Time hapned the Death of the Bishop of *Acha Cuimngire*, and *St. Neasín* the Leper. In the Government of this Irish Monarch, the Church of *Cluain Feart*, in the County of *Kerry*, was founded and compleated by the charitable Bounty of

 Saint *Breanuin*, who claim'd his Extraction from the Posterity of *Ciar*, the Son of *Feargus*, *Gabhrian*, the King of *Scotland*, died in this Year; and his Enemy *Gruige*, the Son of *Maoibion*, King of the *Picts*, fought successfully, and routed the *Scots* in a pitch'd Battel. Another Engagement about this Time was fought by *Feargus* and *Daniel*, the two Sons of *Mortough*, the Son of *Earca*, that was call'd the Battel of *Cuildeinne*, against *Diarmuid*, the Son of *Feargus*, who was defeated with a terrible Slaughter of his Troops, and obliged to fly for his Life. The unfortunate Event of this Action, wherein the greatest Part of his Army was lost, was the Effect of the Prayers of St. *Colum Cill*. This excellent Person had been reproachfully used by the King, who had violently put to death *Curnan* the Son of *Hugh*, the Son of *Tiormcharna*, who was educated under the Care and Protection of *Colum Cill*; and for this barbarous Act the Saint applied to Heaven for Vengeance, which heard his Prayers, and punish'd the King with the Loss of his choicest Forces in the Battel before mention'd. *Diarmuid* was attended with the same ill Fortune, when he fought the Battel of *Cuil Umfion* at *Teabhtha*, and was driven out of the Field by *Hugh*, the Son of *Breanian*, King of *Teabhtha*, where the Slaughter was incredible, and scarce a Man of his whole Army remained alive. *Colum Cill* after this Defeat removed into *Scotland*, to a Place call'd *Hoidbe Colum Cill*, and now he was about forty three Years of Age. Soon after he arrived in that Country, was fought a most desperate Battel in that Kingdom, by *Clanna Neill*, in a Part of the Highlands, call'd the Fight of *Monadoire*, where seven petty Kings of the *Picts*, with the Flower of their Army, were left dead upon the Field of Battel. About this Time died *Colman More*, the Son of *Cairbre*, Son of *Dunluing*, who had govern'd the Province of *Leinster* thirty Years.

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 clana Neill  
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 anyo.

There is an Account in a very ancient Chronicle, that in the seventh Year of the Reign of *Diarmuid*, King of *Ireland*, a poor Woman, who was a Nun, and had vowed a religious Life, call'd *Sionach Cro*, applied her self to the King complaining of the great Injury she had received from *Guaire*, the Son of *Colman*, who had violently forc'd from her a Cow that was the only means of her Subsistence. This Injury was so resented by *Diarmuid*, that he selected a strong Body

of

of his Troops, and directed his March towards the River *Shanon*, and encamp'd upon the Banks of the Stream. *Guaire* had soon notice of his Preparations and his March, and with a much less Number of Forces, he resolv'd to justify what he had done by the Sword; and leading his Men towards the Banks of the *Shanon*, he fac'd the King's Troops on the other Side. In this Posture of Defiance the two Armies were drawn out; but *Guaire* doubting of Success, dispatch'd *Cumin*, one of his Favourites, to *Diarmuid*, to desire that he would not attempt to cross the River with his Forces, within the Space of four and twenty Hours. The King promised that he would not, and told the Messenger, that his Request was but of small Importance, for he was assured of Victory, depending not only upon the Justice of his Cause, but the Number and experienc'd Bravery of his Forces. *Diarmuid* as he had engaged, continued in his Encampment till the next Morning, upon the East Side of the River, and *Guaire* upon the West.

*Cumin* having Intelligence of the Number of the King's Troops, was averse to an Engagement, and desiring to persuade *Guaire* to make his Peace by a timely Submission; he expostulated with him upon the Uncertainty of the Success, and wonder'd he would attempt to come to a Battel under so great Disadvantages: But *Guaire* no ways discouraged, for his personal Bravery was never questioned, replied, that Victory was not always the Consequence of Numbers, but depended upon the Disposal of Heaven, which often bestows Success upon a few, and defeats a Multitude; and that he was satisfied in the Courage of his Soldiers, and therefore he determin'd to face the Enemy, and leave the Event to Providence. In this Enterprize *Guaire* was attended by the principal Nobility and Gentry of the Provinces of *Munster* and *Conacht*, who rais'd what Forces they were able, and came to his Assistance. And now the two Armies drawn out in Order of Battel upon the Banks of the *Shanon*, attempted to recover the opposite Side, but the provincial Troops were unable to oppose the undaunted Resolution of the King's Army, which plunged into the Stream, and with incredible Difficulty forced their Way; and notwithstanding *Guaire*, with all the Conduct of an able and experienced General, attempted to hinder their landing, his Forces

עד ידיו  
היו עמו  
אשר היו  
עמו.

Forces were defeated with a dreadful Slaughter, and the few that remained fled for their Lives.

The Misfortune of this Battel is attributed to the importunate Prayers of St. *Caimin*, who founded and consecrated the Church of *Inis Cealtrach*; for that holy Person, as the Chronicles inform us, had spent three Days and three Nights in Devotion, and imploring Heaven to blast the Designs of *Guaire*, and to confound his Army. This St. *Caimin* was a lineal Descendent from the Posterity of *Fiachadh Baiceada*, the Son of *Cathaoir More*; and when *Guaire* was informed before the Engagement, that St. *Caimin* was supplicating upon his Knees against his Success, and professed himself an Enemy to his Cause; he applied himself to the Saint, and with great Humility asking his Pardon, and lamenting the Misfortune of his Displeasure, he intreated him to be reconciled and to pray for his Victory; but the Saint remained inexorable, and told him, that his Overthrow and the Destruction of his Army was determin'd, and the Decree of Heaven could not be revoked.

Staidhe a-  
Sag Caimin  
anyo.


After the Defeat of the Provincial Troops *Guaire* had no Security for his Life but a secret and swift Flight, and therefore he made his Way thro' Woods and solitary Places without any Attendants, till he came to a small Cell, where no Person lived but a religious Woman, who had retired thither for the Benefit of Devotion. When the Woman saw him, she enquired after his Name, and the Business that brought him into that unfrequented Solitude; he concealed his Name, and told her, that he was a Friend to *Guaire*, who had been routed by the King's Troops, and he was obliged to fly to preserve his Life. The Woman replied, that she was sorry for the Defeat of *Guaire*, who was a Prince of that Goodness, Bounty and Charity as to deserve a better Fortune; and after she had enlarged upon the Accomplishments and the Calamities of the General, she welcomed him into her Apartment, promised Fidelity in concealing him, and supplied him with necessary Accommodations as far as her Abilities and the Circumstances of the Place would permit. But this pious Woman, concern'd that the Meanness of her Provision was unsuitable to the Quality of her Guest, went to an adjacent Brook in order to procure some Fish for the Entertainment of the Prince, and by good Fortune espying a Salmon, which of her self she was unable to catch,



catch, she return'd to her Cell, and joyfully relating her Success, she desired him to go with her to the River, and assist her to catch the Fish: He willingly followed her to the Place, they drew the Salmon out of the Water; and *Guairé*, that was used to keep a splendid Table, and generally consumed among his Household ten Oxen at a Meal, made a Supper of only the Fish with great Chearfulness and Satisfaction, and expressed his Gratitude to Providence and to the Piety of his Host for his unexpected Relief. The next Morning the Prince left the Cell, and wandring thro' the Woods, met with a Body of his Troops, who had survived the Defeat; they received him with great Joy, and he put himself at the Head of them: A Council of War was immediately called, and the Debate was, whether the Prince should again try his Fortune, and recruit his Forces, or submit to the Victor with his whole Army? After several Arguments were offered on both Sides, it was concluded, that a general Submission best became the unfortunate Posture of their Affairs; and *Guairé* convinc'd of the Necessity of this Advice, led his broken Forces, and resolved to make his Peace with the Conqueror upon any Terms.

Approaching the royal Army, *Guairé* sent a Messenger to offer his Submission, which was accepted, and promising to lay down his Arms, he was admitted into the Presence of the King; he immediately fell upon his Knees, and delivered up his Sword into the King's Hand, who obliged him to hold the Point of it between his Teeth; and in that humble Posture he confessed his Disloyalty and the Unwarrantableness of his Designs, and bound himself by the most solemn Obligations to atone for his Miscarriages by his future Fidelity and Obedience.

It was observed before, that *Guairé* was a Person of the most exemplary Goodness and extensive Charity; and the King suspecting the Integrity of his outward Virtues, resolved to make a Tryal while he had him at his Mercy, who still continued upon his Knees, lamenting his Misfortune, and supplicating Pardon. And for this Purpose the King commanded an eminent *Druid* who always attended near his Person, to ask some Favour of *Guairé*, to try whether his Charity and his great Bounty proceeded from a principle of Religion and Goodness, or were the Effect of a Desire of Popularity and

 Ostentation. The *Druid* obeyed his Orders, and implored the Charity of the unhappy Prince, and beg'd he would bestow something upon him for the Sake of his Profession; but *Guaire*, suspecting the Design, refused his Request, being convinc'd, that he was supported by the King, and could be under no Necessity to desire his Relief. Upon this Repule, a Man, grievously afflicted with the Leprosy, and a very miserable Object was sent to *Guaire*, who solicited his Charity, and begged Alms for God's Sake. This he supposed was an unhappy Person worthy of his Compassion, and accordingly, being incapable to relieve him any other Way, he gave him the silver Bodkin that stuck in his Vest. The poor Man retired with great Gratitude, and applied to Heaven for a Blessing upon his Benefactor; but the Bodkin was taken from him by the King's Order, and the *Leper* returned to *Guaire* to acquaint him of his Misfortune, and again to intreat his Charity. Upon his Return, the good Prince affected with the Relation and Barbarity of the Fact, resolved to supply his Wants to the utmost of his Abilities, and bestowed upon him a golden Girdle of great Value that was tied about his Waste. It was gratefully accepted by the Beggar; but before he had gone far, it was taken from him by the King's Command, which forced him to return again to the unhappy Prince, who continued still upon his Knees with the Point of the Sword between his Teeth, the King holding the Hilt in his Hand. When the *Leper* had related the cruel Circumstances of his Usage, he implored his farther Relief, upon which the compassionate *Guaire*, who had nothing more that he could bestow, was so concern'd, that he burst out into a Flood of Tears. The King observing him in this Affliction, demanded the Occasion of it, and asked him whether his Sorrow and Concern proceeded from the Calamity of his Affairs; because he had made his Submission, and lay at his Mercy, who had the Power of the Sword, and was able if he pleased instantly to dispatch him. *Guaire* replied, that his melancholy Fortune was the least Subject of his Grief, which arose wholly from reflecting upon the Distress of the miserable *Leper*, and the Incapacity of his Condition to afford him Relief. The King immediately commanded him rise to from the Ground, and being convinc'd of the Humanity of his

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 naf Eudine.

comur Eude  
 Rios eo-  
 naf.

his Nature, and the Sincerity of his Virtue, generously received him into his Friendship, and promised never to require any Subjection from him; being sensible there was an Almighty Sovereign to whom he himself ow'd Homage, and whose Vicegerent he was in the Administration of his Government.

The two Kings being reconciled, entered into a strict League, and bound themselves in the most solemn Manner not to violate their Engagements. The King of *Ireland* invited *Guaire* to go with him to the great Fair of *Tailtean*, which was the general Mart of the whole Kingdom; and to convince him of the Sincerity of his Affection, among other Testimonies of his Esteem, he promised to settle the Succession upon him, and resolved to confirm the Crown to him after his Decease. The two Princes with a noble Retinue came to *Tailtean*, and *Guaire* carried with him a great Quantity of Money to dispose of in Acts of Charity, and upon other Occasions as Opportunity offered. But *Diarmuid*, understanding the Generosity of his Nature, and that his Bounty admitted no Limits, gave secret Orders thro' the whole Fair, that no Person should presume upon any Account to apply to *Guaire* for his Charity, or receive a Gratuity from his Hands. Three Days after his Arrival, *Guaire* perceiving no miserable Object to implore his Relief; and being informed, that the King had forbidden by a strict Injunction, that no Person should beg an Alms of him, was so dejected, that he desired the King to allow him the Attendance of a good Bishop, to whom he might confess, and from whose Hands he might receive Absolution and the holy Ointment. The King surpris'd, asked him, what he intended by this Request? he answered, that his Death he was certain was approaching, because he was unable to live without exercising his Charity, which his royal Mandate had absolutely put out of his Power to do. The King immediately revoked his Order, and by that Means opened a Way for the Bounty of his royal Companion, who besides the large Sums he expended in relieving the Poor, with great Generosity encouraged the Men of Learning in all Professions, and by his Benefactions procured the Applause of the most eminent Poets and Antiquaries of the Kingdom. There is an Account in an ancient Manuscript, the Credit of which may perhaps be questioned,

ed, that the Hand with which he extended his Charity to the poor, was longer than that which bestowed his Gifts upon Men of Learning. The King of *Ireland* propos'd the Succession of *Guaire* to the Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom, who confirm'd his Title with publick Demonstrations of Joy; and this mutual Affection and Esteem continued inviolable between the two Princes, till Death dissolv'd their Engagements, and put an End to their Friendship.

The *Irish* Annals give an Account, that *Guaire* had a Brother, who devoted himself to a religious Life, whose Name was *Mochua*: This holy Person observ'd all the Fasts of the Church with great Obedience, and designing to abstain from his common Diet, and to eat no more than what was absolutely necessary to support Nature during the Time of *Lent*; he retired for that Purpose to a Fountain of pure Spring Water that lay Southwards of *Bourin*, at the Distance of five Miles from *Durlus Guaire*, and he had no Person to attend upon him but a *Clergyman* of a lower Order, whom he retain'd to say Mass. In this Retirement these Votaries observ'd great Abstinence and Regularity in their eating and drinking, and their Custom was to refresh themselves with no more than one Meal a Day; which consisted of the meanest Provisions, a small Quantity of coarse Barley Bread with Water Cresses and Spring Water from the Fountain. In this Manner they spent the Time of *Lent* till *Easter* Day, which Festival the holy *Mochua* resolv'd to observe with the strictest Devotion and Reverence; and therefore he celebrated the Mass himself, and performed other Offices that belonged to the Solemnity of the Occasion; but his Clerk, who attended upon him, was so tired with feeding upon Herbs and such slender Provisions, that he interrupted the *Saint* before the Prayers were over, and long'd so impatiently to eat Flesh, that he desired his Master to give him leave to go to *Durlus* to the Court of *Guaire*, King of *Conacht*, and refresh and satisfy himself with Flesh; for he was no longer able to support Nature by that abstemious Method he had us'd, and by a Way of living that his Constitution would not permit. *Mochua* did not oppose the Reasonableness of his Request; but persuading him to be patient and resign'd, he told him he would supply him with Flesh without undertaking such a Journey; for he would supplicate Heaven in his

Behalf;

Behalf; and he was assured that his Prayers would have the desired Effect and supply his Wants: Accordingly he prostrated himself, and most importunately call'd upon God, imploring his bountiful Hand to provide Flesh for his Servant, who had fasted the Time of *Lent* with strict Reverence, and was unable to preserve his Health without immediate Relief.

At that very Instant it happened (as some particular Manuscripts relate, but with small Truth I'm afraid) that the Servants of *Guaire*, King of *Conacht*, were laying his Dinner upon the Table; and to the great Surprise of the Attendants, the Dishes were hurried away by an invisible Power, and conveyed directly to the solitary Cell, where *Mochua* was continuing his Devotion, and his Clerk expecting the Event. The Prince with his whole Court was amazed at this wonderful Accident, and enraged at the Loss and Disappointment of his Dinner, he ordered a Body of his Horse Guards to pursue the Dishes travelling in the Air, and he followed himself with the principal of his Nobility, resolving to recover them and bring them back to his Court at *Durlus*.

It seems beneath the Gravity as well as the Dignity of an Historian, to take Notice of these legendary Relations, which are certain rather to move the Indignation and Spleen than the Belief of the Reader; but it must be considered, that the Times we are writing of abounded with incredible Relations and the Writers of those Ages were always raising the Characters of the Saints, even to Miracles not foreseeing the Disadvantage they bring to Religion, which instead of recommending it to the World they ridicule and expose. And in the present Case it cannot be supposed, that the Transaction we are speaking of is put upon the least Foot of Credibility, but designed only to keep the Thread of our History intire, and to give a Light to some material Incidents, which otherwise would be obscure and perhaps not easily to be accounted for. But to go on with our Story.

When the Dishes arrived at the Cell, they presented themselves with great Submission before the devout *Mochua* and his Clerk; and after the Saint had returned Thanks to the Bounty of Heaven for so miraculous a Supply, he desired his Servant that was so carnally inclined, to fall to and eat heartily. The Clerk had

Y y y

scarce



scarce put a Bit into his Mouth, but looking about him he spied a great Company of Horsemen advancing upon full Speed, and making towards them. He was terribly affrighted at the Sight, and lamenting the Voracity of his Appetite, he told his Master, that he wish'd the Dishes had stay'd at home; for he was afraid they came with an evil Design, and would certainly bring them into some Misfortune. *Mochua* comforted the timorous Clerk, and assured him, that it was his Brother *Guaire*, the King of *Conacht*, with his Retinue that was pursuing the Meat; and to keep up his Appetite, he engaged that they should not be able to move a Step nearer, before he had filled himself, and eaten as much as he thought fit: And accordingly, the Saint having offered a short Petition to Heaven, the Feet of the Horses stuck fast in the Ground, and the Riders remained immoveable upon their Backs, and had no Power to stir a Step before the hungry Clerk had satisfied himself, and made a good Meal of it. When he had dined, the Saint addressed himself to God for the Relief of the Pursuers, and the Horses immediately found themselves released, and the Company overcome with Wonder and Astonishment, advanced and presented themselves before the Saint.

tuile da  
Mhorbyle  
anyo.

*Guaire* and his Retinue found the devout *Mochua* upon his Knees; and he immediately quitted his Horse, and in the most submissive Manner intreated his Compassion, and desired his Benediction. The Saint gave him his Blessing and his Pardon, and desired him and his Attendants to fall to and eat their Dinner in that Place; they complied joyfully with the Invitation, and without more Ceremony they consumed most of the Provision, and when they had reverently taken their Leave of *Mochua*, *Guaire* with his Guards and his Followers return'd to his Palace at *Durlus*. Whatever Share of Credit or Contempt this Relation may meet with, it is most certain, that the Road leading from *Durlus* to the Fountain where St. *Mochua* and his Clerk retired to fast during the Time of *Lent*, which is the Length of five Miles, is known to this Day in the *Irish* Language by the Name of *Bothur na Mias*, which in the *English* signifies the *Dishes Road*.

both na mi  
as an ro 7e.

In this Place it must be observ'd, that some of the ancient Chronicles assert, that *Eogan More* had another Son besides *Fiachadh Muilleathan*, whose Name was *Diarmuid*;

*armuid*; and the same Authority informs us that St. *Beacan*, who consecrated the Church of *Cill Beacan* in *Muskry Cuirc*, was a Descendent from the Posterity of that *Diarmuid*, from whom likewise the Antiquaries allow were derived *Oilioll Flannmore*, *Oilioll Flann Beg*, and *Deachluath*. Upon the Extraction of these Persons an old Poet has compos'd the following Verses:

*The holy Beacan from Diarmuid  
Descended, and from the same Progenitor  
Sprung Oilioll Flannmore, a most renowned Prince,  
Oilioll Flann Beg, and Deachluath.*

About this Time it was, that *Breasal* the Son of *Diarmuid*, King of *Ireland*, resolv'd to invite his Father and the principal Nobility of his Court to a magnificent Entertainment, which he design'd to furnish in the most sumptuous Manner at *Ceananus* in *Meath*; among other Dishes for the Feast he propos'd to have a large Piece of Beef of exceeding Fatness; and examining his own Cattle for this purpose, he found them so lean, that they were not fit to be kill'd, especially upon so publick an Occasion. Under this Disappointment he was inform'd, that a religious Woman had a Cow that would suit his Design; but when he applied to her to purchase the Beast, she absolutely refused to sell her, and when she could not be prevail'd upon to exchange her for seven Cows and a Bull that was offer'd, *Breasal* drove her away by Violence, and kill'd her for the Entertainment. This poor Woman lived at *Cill Ealchruidhe*. The King of *Ireland* with his Courtiers and his royal Retinue came to the Feast; and when they were in the Height of their Mirth, this injured Woman forc'd her self into the Room, and in the most affecting Manner complain'd of *Breasal* to the King; and representing the Circumstances of the Wrong she had suffer'd, most passionately demand'd Justice. *Diarmuid* was so moved at the Violence offer'd to her; and so highly resent'd the Baseness of his Son, that he was in a Rage, and vow'd he would revenge the Injury and put his Son to Death for the Fact. Accordingly he commanded him to be seized and taken into strict Custody, and dragging him to the River *Loch Ruidhe*, he order'd him to be drowned, which unnatural Sentence was immediately executed.

So far this Story may deserve Belief; but what follows without doubt was foisted in by the credulous Writers of those dark Ages, who were for heaping Miracles upon the Backs of their Saints, which the present Times are not expected to give Credit to. But these obscure Guides are the only Authority we have to direct us, and therefore we are obliged to comply with the Coarseness of our Materials, and proceed regularly, lest our Design should suffer more by omitting these legendary Relations than it possibly can by inserting them in the History.

tedf Riob  
emioh aguf  
bolym eille  
gondoin be-  
dead.

The King having indulg'd his Passion so far as to destroy his Son, in his calmer Moments began to lament his Loss, and to condemn himself for the sudden Violence of his Resentment. He was perfectly overcome with Melancholy; and when he reflected upon his Death, the Thoughts of it were insupportable. In this distracted Condition he applied himself to *Collum Cill*, who advised him to go to *St. Beacan*, who lived in the Province of *Munster*, and possibly from the Prayers of that Holy Person he might find Relief. This Advice the King follow'd, and attended by *Collum Cill*, he came to the Saint, who resided in a mean Cell upon the North Side of Mount *Grott*, which at this Time is known in the *Irish* Language by the Name of *Cill Beacan*. When they arrived they found the Saint with great Labour digging a Ditch to surround his Church-yard, and working in his wet Cloaths, for it was a rainy Day. When *St. Beacan* perceived that it was the King of *Ireland*; he cried out to him aloud, *O Murderer, down to the Ground upon your Knees*; The King instantly quitted his Horse and prostrated himself before the Saint. *Collum Cill*, who attended upon the King inform'd the Holy *Beacan* of the Business they came upon, and told him that the King was distracted almost with reflecting upon the Barbarity of the Act he had committed, and had no Relief left him but his Prayers to Heaven, that God would be pleas'd to pardon him the Offence, and restore him his Son alive; and therefore he presumed that so religious a Person, would not refuse to intercede for him, since his Life and Happiness were so immediately concern'd. The Saint was moved with Compassion, and address'd himself three Times with great Fervency to Heaven for the restoring of the young Prince, and Heaven heard his Prayers,

for as the Legend relates, the King's Son was brought to Life and presented to his Father, who received him with inexpressible Joy, and ever held the Saint in great Veneration, whose Devotion had Power sufficient to work such Wonders, and accomplish so miraculous an Event.

The *Irish* Chronicles go on, and entertain us with Transactions of no great Importance, yet not so trifling as to be wholly omitted. They inform us, that *Guaire*, the Son of *Colman*, King of *Conacht*, *Cuimin Fada*, Son of *Fiachadh*, and *Camin* of *Inis Cealtrach*, met upon a Time at the great Church of *Inis*, where it was agreed, that three Questions were to be proposed among them and were to be severally answer'd. *Camin* was appointed to ask the first Question, and demanded of *Guaire*, what he most passionately wish'd to be possess'd of in this World? His Answer was, an immense Treasure of Gold and Silver. Then *Guaire* propos'd to him what was the utmost of his Wishes and Desires? He replied, to their great Surprise, a Languishing and distemper'd Body. The next Question was offer'd by *Guaire* to *Cuimin*, who ask'd him what he would wish to obtain? He replied a Number of pious and learned Books, to make me capable of discovering the Truth to the People, and instructing them in the Doctrines of Religion. It is said that they all severally obtained their Desires; and particularly we are inform'd, that *Camin* ended his Days miserably, his Body being sorely afflicted with Pains and Diseases, being under the Curse of St. *Mochua*, who, as the *Irish* Annals relate, implored Heaven to punish him with the most dreadful Visitations.

*Guaire*, the Son of *Colman* receiv'd Provocations from the People of *Munster*, which he resolv'd to revenge by the Sword, and after he had completed three Battalions of choice Troops rais'd in *Conacht*, he enter'd that Province with great Terror and Loss to the Inhabitants. The King of *Cashel* at that Time was *Dioma*, the Son of *Roanon*, Son of *Aongus*, who was followed by a gallant Army and resolv'd to oppose the Hostilities of *Guaire*, and drive him into his own Territories. The two Armies met at a Place call'd *Magh Figimty*, now known by the Name of the Heart or Middle of the County of *Limerick*, where the two Princes with great Courage engaged at *Carn Fearaidhaidh*, and a terrible Slaughter was made on both Sides; but *Guaire* was at length compell'd

Z z z z

do bny fia  
munda do  
gude mac  
Colmdin 7c.

pell'd to fly, and most of his Forces were slain upon the Spot. In this Action were lost seven of the principal Gentlemen of the Province of *Conacht*. The Occasion that induced *Guaire* to invade the Province of *Munster*, was to support his Pretensions to all the Territories from Mount *Eachtuidke* to *Limerick*, which originally belong'd to the old Division of *Conacht*; but was separated from that Province by *Lughaidh Meain*, the Son of *Aongus Tireach*, who defeated the Forces of *Conacht* in seven successive Battles; in which terrible Engagements, which were sharply disputed on both Sides, were slain seven Kings, who fought with great Bravery, and unfortunately fell at the Head of their Troops. *Lughaidh* was at length so reduc'd that the remaining Part of his Army consisted of raw undisciplin'd Men, scarce of Age and of small Experience; so that he made *Swords Land*, of all the Country from *Beirn Tri Carbat* by *Carn Fearaidhaidh*, to *Bealach Luchaidhe*, and from *Ath Boiroimbe*, to *Lein Congculainn*, as the ancient Poet *Cormac Mac Cuilleann* observes in the following Manner.

*The martial Prince Lughaidh Lamhdearg,  
Was Crown'd with Victory, and by his Arms  
Contracted the old Limits of the Province,  
And took from Conacht all the Territories  
From Carn Feuradhaig to Ath Luchar.*

Mac duab  
no Moebua.

*St. Mochua* and *St. Colum Cill* lived in the same Age, and (as a Manuscript of some Credit, tho' of small Importance relates) when *Mochua*, who was likewise known by the Name of *Mac Duab*, was retired into the Wilderness for the Benefit of his Devotion, he had no living Creatures about him except a *Cock*, a *Mouse* and a *Fly*. The Use of the *Cock* was to give him Notice of the Time of Night by his crowing, that he might know when to apply himself to his Prayers: The *Mouse* it seems had his proper Office, which was to prevent the Saint from sleeping above five Hours within the Space of twenty four; for when the Business of his Devotion, which he exercised with great Reverence and Regularity upon his Knees, had so fatigued his Spirits, that they required a longer Refreshment, and *Mochua* was willing to indulge himself, the *Mouse* would come to his Ears and scratch him with its Feet,

till



till he was perfectly awake: The *Fly* always attended upon him when he was reading; it had the Sense, it seems, to walk along the Lines of the Book; and when the Saint had tired his Eyes and was willing to desist, the *Fly* would stay upon the first Letter of the next Sentence, and by that Means direct him where he was to begin. An Excellent Monitor! But as Fate would have it, these three sensible Creatures unfortunately died, which was an Affliction of that Consequence to the Saint, that he immediately dispatch'd a Letter to *Collum Cill*, who was then in *Scotland*, lamenting the Death of his Companions, and intreated a proper Message from him to support him in his Sorrow. *Collum Cill* received the News with a Christian Magnanimity, and returned this comfortable Answer, that he ought to mitigate his Grief, for Misfortunes attend upon all sublunary Things; that his three Companions were mortal and subject to the inexorable Stroke of Death, and therefore it became him not to be surpris'd, or in an immoderate Manner to lament their Departure. Not long after this it was, that *Diarmuid*, the Son of *Feargus*, King of *Ireland*, fell by the Sword of *Hugh Dubh Mac Swyny* at a Place called *Rath Beag in Mughline*, and was buried at *Cuin-nirry*. Letter con-  
tain Cille  
argu.

*Feargus* and his Brother *Daniel* were the succeeding *d. D. 550.* Monarchs. They were the Sons of *Mortough*, Son of *Earca*, Son of *Muireadbach*, Son of *Eogan*, Son of *Niall*, the renowned Hero of the nine Hostages, descended from the Posterity of *Heremon*. These Brothers governed the Island without jealousy or dispute, for the Space of one Year. The Mother of these Princes was *Duinfeach*, the Daughter of *Duach Teangabha*, King of *Conacht*. These Kings were obliged to engage with the Inhabitants of *Leinster*, and they fought the memorable Battel of *Gabbra Liffe* with the Subjects of that Province; who in the Action lost four hundred of the principal Nobility and Gentry of the Country, together with the greatest Part of their whole Army. About this Time *Dioman Mac Muireadbach*, who governed the Province of *Ulster* ten Years, was unfortunately kill'd by *Bachlachuibh*. *Feargus* and *Daniel* died soon after; but whether they fell by an untimely Stroke, as did most of their Predecessors, it is impossible at this Distance to determine.

A. D. 551.

eadbre epon  
anyo.

*Eochaidh*, the Son of *Daniel*, was the next Successor in the Throne of *Ireland*; he was the Son of *Mortough*, Son of *Earca*. This Prince admitted with him into the Government his Uncle *Baodan*, Son of *Mortough*, Son of *Earca*, descended from the illustrious Line of *Heremon*, and they governed the Island three Years. In the Reign of these Princes it was, that *Cairbre Crom*, the Son of *Criomthán Sreibh*, Son of *Eochaidh*, Son of *Nadfráich*, who was King over the Province of *Munster*, departed the present Life: This martial Prince fought the Battel of *Feimhin* against *Colman Beag*, the Son of *Diarmuid*, and defeated him with a terrible Slaughter of the greatest Part of his Forces; and the Victor was distinguished by the Name of *Cairbre Crom*, because he was nursed and had his Education at a Place called *Cromghiffe*. About this Time died, as some of the ancient Records of the Kingdom inform us, *Breannuin Biorra*, who lived to the Age of ninescore Years, as a Poet of great Antiquity and good Credit has transmitted to us in the following Verses.

*Happy the Man whom Providence preserves  
To the long Life of Briannuin Biorra,  
Who liv'd in Plenty and Prosperity  
A hundred and eighty Tears, and then he died  
Lamented.*

conull mde  
omsguill  
tug doicil  
laim eille an  
Albann do  
collum eille.

Sometime after this, *Fiachadh*, the Son of *Baodhan*, engaged in the bloody Battel of *Folla* and *Fortbola* against the Inhabitants of the Counties of *Ely* and *Ossory*, and obtained a complete Victory by slaying incredible Numbers of the Enemy. In the Reign of these Kings died *Conull*, the Son *Combguill*, the Commander of the *Dailriada* in *Scotland*, after he had governed that illustrious Tribe for the Space of sixteen Years: This *Scottish* General bestowed *Aoi* in that Kingdom upon *Colum Cill*. These *Irish* Princes *Eochaidh* and *Baodian* were slain by *Crouan* the Son of *Tiaghernaig*, King of *Conachta Glinne Geimhin*.

A. D. 554.

*Annmereach* was the succeeding Monarch; he was the Son of *Seadhna*, Son of *Feargus Ceanfada*, Son of *Conull Gulban*, Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the nine Hostages, descended from the royal Branch of *Heremon*, and administered the Government three Years. The Wife of this Prince was *Bridget*, the Daughter of *Cobhthaig*, the Son

Son of *Oiliolla*, descended from the noble Family of the *Leinsters* of *Ard Ladhrán*, by whom he had a Prince whose Name was *Hugh*. *Annemereach* after a short Reign was deprived of his Crown and of his Life by *Feárgus Mac Neill* at *Carrig Leime an Eich*.

*Báodán* sat next in the Throne of Ireland; he was *A. D. 557*. the Son of *Níneadbhadh*, Son of *Feárgus Ceannfada*, Son of *Conull Gulban*, Son of *Níall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, descended from the Posterity of *Heremon*, and governed the Island one Year. The royal Consort of this Prince was *Cacht*, the Daughter of the King of *Fionn-gall*: And in this King's Reign it was, that *St. Breánnín* of *Cluain Feart* was translated to a better Life. dá b'ar 7 aile 7 naom an eighín an 70 7é.

About this Time was fought the bloody Conflict of *Bagha*, in which Engagement *Aodh*, the Son of *Eocháidh Tiormcharnadh*, King of *Conacht*, was slain. The Reign of this *Irish* Monarch was memorable for the Death of the renowned *Cairbre Crom*, King of *Munster*, and of *Báodán*, the King of *Ulster*, and likewise of *St. Ruadhan Lothra*, derived from the Family of *Oiliolla Flan Beg*, the Son of *Fiachá Muilleathan*. *Baodan*, the King of *Ireland*, after one Year's Reign was treacherously slain by the two *Cuimins*, that is, by *Cuimin*, Son of *Colman Beag*, and *Cuimin*, the Son of *Libbrein*, at a Place called *Carrig Leime an Eich*. It is proper to observe in this Place, that the venerable *Bede* in the fourth Chapter of the third Book of his *English* History asserts, that *St. Collum Cill* removed into *Scotland* in the Year of our Redemption five hundred sixty five.

*Aodh* or *Hugh* obtained the Crown; he was the Son *A. D. 558*. of *Annemereach*, Son of *Seadhna*, Son of *Feárgus Ceannfada*, Son of *Conall Gulban*, Son of *Níall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, of the royal Line of *Heremon*. The Mother of this Prince, as was observed before, was *Bridget*, the Daughter of *Cobthach*. This *Irish* Monarch had a long Reign of seven and twenty Years, and he fought the noted Battle of *Beallach Dathi*, where he obtained a signal Victory, and slew *Colman Beag*, the Son of *Diarmuid*, and five thousand of the Enemy were left dead upon the Spot: By this Means the Prophecy of *Collum Cill*, who particularly predicted this Defeat, was accomplished. In the Reign of *Hugh*, the pious *Seanagh*, the Bishop of *Cluainioraird*, departed the present Life: And during his Government it was, that *Fiachadh*, the Son of *Baodán*, Son of *Muireadbach*,

who governed the Province of *Ulster* five and twenty Years, was killed by the Sword of *Fiachadh*, the Son of *Deamain*, in the Battel of *Beathadh*; about which Time died *Feidhlim*, the Son of *Tighernach*, King of *Munster*.

do comitio-  
not promo-  
ceat anyo  
7ē.

This *Irish* King summon'd by his royal Mandate the Princes, the Nobility and Clergy of the Kingdom to meet at the Parliament of *Dromceat*: He had three Reasons which induced him to appoint this Convention, but the principal Occasion was to concert proper Measures to expell and banish a numerous Body of Men who were called *Poets* out of the Island: These Professors were become very chargeable to the Inhabitants, and being of a covetous Disposition, were a Grievance insupportable to the People; and upon the Account of Privileges and Immunities injoyed by these Versifiers from the Indulgence of former Kings, a third Part of the whole Kingdom pass'd under the Notion of Poets, and profess'd themselves regular Members of that Society; for it was a plausible Cover to Idleness and Ease; it being ordain'd by Law, that they should be supported by other Men's Labours, and billeted upon the People throughout the Island from *Allhallow-tide* till *May*. This Grievance being represented to the King, he resolv'd to reduce their Number by expelling most of them the Kingdom, and by that Means to redress this insufferable Imposition, and satisfie the Desires of his Subjects.

But the great Reason that incens'd this Monarch against the *Poets*, and provoked him to drive them out of the Island, was for their Insolence in demanding the *Golden Bodkin* that fastned the royal Robes under the King's Neck, and was esteemed so sacred and unalienable, that it was carefully delivered down from one Prince to another as a royal Jewel of singular Worth and Virtue. This unprecedented Demand inrag'd the King; but he consider'd it might be of bad Consequence to banish them the Kingdom; and therefore he resolv'd to confine them to *Dailriada* in the Province of *Ulster*.

It must be observed, that this was not the first Time the Poets fell under the Repentment of the *Irish* Princes; for in the Reign of *Connor Macneasa*, King of *Ulster*, who reigned many Years before *Hugh* came to the Throne, there was a Design to prosecute the Poets with the utmost Severity of Law and Justice; for they had by their

Behaviour rendred themselves so obnoxious to the State, and so burthensome to the People, that there was no Possibility of appeasing the Inhabitants without expelling them the Island. But when this Resolution of the Government was known to the *Poets*, the whole Body of them, which amounted to a thousand, met to concert Measures to preserve themselves from the impending Storm: Nor are we to wonder that they were increased to so great a Number; for every principal Poet for a Mark of Distinction retained thirty of inferior Note as his Attendants, and a Poet of the second Order was always followed by a Retinue of fifteen. In this Convention of Poets, after many Debates, it was resolv'd to leave the Island before the Sentence of their Banishment was pronounced, and retire into *Scotland*. When the King of *Ulster* understood their Design, he thought it would be inexpedient to transport themselves into that Kingdom, and therefore he sent to them *Congculoinn*, one of his Favourites, with a Commission to treat with the Malecontents, and allow them a Continuance of seven Years in the Country, as a Time of Probation; and if they did not reform their Conduct before the Time expired, they were to be finally banished. An ancient Poet has recorded this Transaction in this Manner.

*Connor, the most renowned King of Ulster,  
A Friend to Arts, and Patron to the learned,  
Protected by his great Authority  
The Poets for seven Years, who liv'd in Peace  
Throughout the Island.*

Within the Time allowed, the Poets by Degrees found Means to disperse themselves over the whole Nation, and gave no Uneasiness to the People; so that they lived unmolested till the Reign of *Fiachadh*, Son of *Baoduin*, King of *Ulster*, and from the Time of *Fiachadh*, to *Maolchabha*, Son of *Diomain*, Son of *Carril*, who governed the same Province, and so they continued unpersecuted, till *Hugh*, the Son of *Anmhereach*, became Monarch of the Island. Three several Times this Profession of Men had rendred themselves offensive and insufferable to the People, who represented their Oppression to the State, and petitioned for their Expulsion; but they were still protected by the Mediation

of



of the Kings of *Ulster*, who received them into that Province, and were answerable for their Behaviour. When the first Attempt was made towards their Banishment, *Connor*, the King of *Ulster*, interposed, and profess'd himself their Patron and Advocate, and reprieved their Punishment for seven Years, notwithstanding they were above a thousand in Number. The second Persecution they brought themselves under, was taken off by the Interest and Authority of *Fiachadh*, the Son of *Baodan*, who governed the same Province, and entertained them for the Space of one Year; for by this Time their Number was reduced, the whole Body amounting to no more than seven hundred, with an eminent Poet at the Head of them, called *Eochaidh Riogh Eigeas*, as another Poet has recorded in this Manner.

do gat 23  
 23 23 23  
 na filide do  
 do 23 23 23

*The learned Eochaidh Riogh Eigeas,  
 The celebrated Poet of the Age,  
 With all his Followers of the same Profession,  
 Were kindly entertain'd by Fiachadh,  
 And saved from Punishment.*

The third Design to expell the Poets was prevented by the seasonable Intercession of *Maolchabha*, King of *Ulster*, who received them into his Favour, and saved them from Banishment; for at this Time they made a considerable Figure in the Kingdom by their Numbers which encreased daily and amounted completely to twelve hundred: The principal Poets who had a Sort of Jurisdiction over the rest, were *Dallan*, *Forguill* and *Seanchan*; This Deliverance of the Poets is recorded in the following Lines.

*The valiant Maolchabha, King of Ulster,  
 From Exile sav'd by his Authority  
 The Poets of the Island; in his Province  
 He entertain'd them abandon'd and forlorn,  
 As the great Patron of the Irish Muse.*

do 23 23 23  
 23 23 23  
 23 23 23

The second Reason that prevail'd upon the King to summon by his royal Mandate, the great Assembly of *Dromceat*, was in order to settle a constant Tribute upon the Tribe of the *Dailriads* in *Scotland*, who ow'd Homage to the Crown of *Ireland*, and paid an Acknowledgment, called *Eiric*, which signifies *Ransom* or *Kin-*

dred Money to the King. This Tax was first laid upon them by Colman, the Son of *Combgealladh*, but they had of late refused to contribute their Proportion, which *Hugh*, the reigning Monarch was resolved to insist upon, and accordingly the Matter was fully debated in this Convention. *Colman*, who first obliged them to be Tributaries to the *Irish*, has taken Notice of their Subjection in this Manner.

*The Dailriads I ordain shall pay  
Eiric, as Tribute to the Irish Crown,  
And with their Troops endeavour to support  
The King by Sea and Land.*

The third Occasion, for which *Hugh* assembled this Convention of the Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom, was to deprive *Scanlan More*, the Son of *Cionfhao-ladh* of the Command of *Offery*, who had refused to pay the Revenue arising from that Country into the publick Exchequer, and diverted it to his own Use. His Post and Authority the King designed to confer upon *Jollan*, the Son of *Scanlan*, who was exceedingly well qualified to govern that People, and gave Security to the King, that he would be punctual in the Payment of the Taxes laid upon him. These were the Reasons for which the King conven'd this Parliament of *Dromceat*, as these ancient Lines expressly testify.

*The Irish Monarch summon'd by his Writs  
The Parliament of Dromceat, the Subjects in Debate  
Were the Expulsion of the Poets, the ancient Tribute  
Of Dailriads, and the just deposing  
Of Scanlan, Prince of Offery.*

Having mentioned the Convention of *Dromceat* and the Occasion of their Meeting, it may not be improper to give a particular Account of the Members of that Assembly, which consisted of the Princes, and the principal Nobility and Gentry of the whole Kingdom. There met upon the Summons from the King, *Criomhthán Cear*, King of *Leinster*, *Jollan*, Son of *Scanlan* King of *Offery*, *Maolduin*, Son of *Aodha* or *Hugh Bean-nam*, King of *West Munster*, *Guaire*, Son of *Colman*, King of *Clan Fiachadh*, North and South, *Finghin* or *Florence*, Son of *Aodha* or *Hugh Dubh*, Son of *Criomhthán*

Ríogte a-  
 fur n díyle  
 á comóil  
 á noma eeat  
 anyo.
 

 than, King of the whole Province of *Munster*, *Criomh-  
 than Deilgneach*, King of *West Ireland*, *Ragallach*, Son  
 of *Uadbach*, King of *Tuatha Taighdean*, and *Breisne ó  
 Rorke* to *Chabhan Modbuinn*, *Ceallach*, Son of *Cearnach*,  
 Son of *Dubh Dotbra*, at *Breisne ui Reyty*, *Congallach Ce-  
 annbhair* on *Tirconuill*, *Fearguill*, Son of *Maolduin* on  
*Oilíoch*, *Guaire*, Son of *Conguill* on *Ulster*, the two Kings  
 of *Oirgiall*, their Names were *Daimin*, Son of *Aongus*,  
 from *Clochar Deasa* to *Fionn Carn* at *Sliabh Fuaid*, *Hugh*,  
 Son of *Duach gallach* from *Fionn Carn*, *Sleibhe Fuaid*,  
 to the River *Boyne*. *St. Collum Cill* likewise attended upon  
 this Assembly of *Dromceat*; for he had Notice sent him  
 into *Scolajid* of the Meeting and the principal Motives  
 that occasioned it; and he immediately transported  
 himself from *Aoií*, where he lived, and was accom-  
 panied by a great Number of religious Persons, who  
 were allowed to sit in this Assembly. This Saint was  
 followed into *Ireland* by a Retinue of twenty Bishops,  
 forty Priests, fifty Deacons and thirty Students in Divi-  
 nity, who were not yet admitted into holy Orders.  
 This Transaction is transmitted to Posterity in the  
 Verses of an old Poet called *Ambra Colluin Cill*, which  
 may be translated thus.

bññ lion  
 eileine cdi-  
 nññ le eol-  
 lum eille o  
 aoi Albdan  
 an eijnñ.

*St. Colum Cill arrived at Dromceat,  
 Followed by a Retinue of his Clergy,  
 By twenty Prelates of superior Order,  
 By forty Presbyters and fifty Deacons,  
 And thirty Students in Divinity  
 Not yet ordain'd.*


I confess, it may seem surprising, that *St. Collum Cill*,  
 who was no more than an *Abbot*, should be attended by  
*Prelates*, who were of a more excellent Order among  
 the Clergy; but the seeming Difficulty will cease by observ-  
 ing what the venerable *Bede* asserts in the fourth Chap-  
 ter of the fifth Book of his *English History*, where  
 he treats of the Bishops of the Island of *Aoií* in *Scot-  
 land*, and declares, that the *Scotish* Bishops acknow-  
 ledged the superior Jurisdiction of the *Abbots* of *Aoií*  
 and in the ancient Times paid them spiritual Obedi-  
 ence; his Expression is, *Solet ipsa habere Protectorem  
 semper Abbatem Presbyterum, cujus Viri & omnis Provincia  
 & ipsi etiam Episcopi Ordine inusitato debent esse subiecti,  
 juxta Exemplum primi Doctoris illius qui non Episcopus sed  
 Presbyter*

*Presbyter extitit & Monachus. The Island of Aoiij was used to have an Abbot, who was a Priest for its Governor, to whom not only the whole Province but also the Bishops by an unusual Order ow'd Submission, after the Example of the Founder and the first Teacher, who was not a Bishop but a Priest and a Monk.*

From the Testimony of this learned Writer we are to understand, that St. *Collum Cill* was the first Teacher that attempted to propagate the Christian Faith among the *Picts*, in the North of *Scotland*; for which Reason not only the Priests and the Monks submitted to the Authority of *Collum Cill*, and his Successors in the Island of *Aoiij*, but the Prelates of the Kingdom likewise were under their Jurisdiction, and paid them Obedience. And therefore the Bishops, who were instructed in the Doctrines of Christianity by *Collum Cill*, thought it their Duty to attend upon him into *Ireland*, to the Assembly of *Dromceat*. We have an Account in the ancient Manuscripts, of a remarkable Circumstance relating to this Saint, who it seems, had obliged himself never more to look upon *Irish* Ground, and therefore to prevent his Sight, he wore a *Sear-cloth* over his Eyes during his Voyage and all the Time he continued in the Island. There was a very holy Person call'd St. *Molaise*, who had sent St. *Collum Cill* into *Scotland* as a religious Penance for some Offence he had committed, and injoin'd him under solemn Penalties never more to behold *Ireland* with his Eyes, and *Collum Cill* religiously observ'd his Commands, and never was refresh'd with a Glimpse of Light till the Assembly broke up and he return'd into *Scotland*. St. *Malaise* wrote a Poem upon this Occasion wherein are these Lines.

*The pious Collum Cill with his Retinue  
Sail'd from the Isle of Aoiij, and arriv'd  
In Ireland; but by the Discipline of the Church,  
Injoin'd, he never with his Eyes beheld  
The Country.*

The Occasion of this severe Penance inflicted by St. *Molaise*, was to correct the vindictive Nature of St. *Collum Cill*, who had imbroil'd the Kingdom in great Confusion, and to gratifie his Revenge was the Promoter of the following bloody Engagements; the Battel of *Cuill Dreimne*, the Battel of *Cuill Rathain*, and the Battel

 Battel of *Cuill Feadha*. The Battel of *Cuill Dreimne* was fought (as St. *Ciaran* testifies in an ancient Manuscript call'd *Jobhuir Chiaran*) upon this Occasion. During the Time of the Sessions of the royal Parliament of *Tara*, that was summon'd by *Diarmuid*, the Son of *Feargus Ceirbbeil*; King of Ireland, it unfortunately happen'd, that *Cuarnan* the Son of *Hugh*, Son of *Eochaidh Fioncharna*, kill'd a Gentleman against the establish'd Laws and Privileges of that Convention. The King resolv'd to preserve the Rights and the Dignity of that Assembly, order'd *Cuarnan* to be executed; but he escaped the Hands of Justice at that Time, and implored the Protection of the two Sons of *Barca*, *Feargus* and *Daniel*, who gave him Refuge and for the better Security of his Life, they committed him to the Care of St. *Collum Cill*, as to a religious Sanctuary which no Authority would presume to violate. But notwithstanding the Piety and the Character of his Keeper, the Crime of the Offender was of that Importance that Justice found him out in his Retirement and deprived him of his Life. This sacrilegious Violence, as it was judg'd to be, so enraged St. *Collum Cill*, that his Passion urg'd him on to Revenge; and incensing the Northern *Clanna Neill*, with the Injury he had receiv'd and the Impiety of the Fact, they took Arms in Defence of the Saint; and in an outrageous Manner demanded Satisfaction of *Diarmuid*, for violating the holy Asylum, and putting the Offender to Death; The King thought to chastise their Sedition with the Sword, and march'd against them with his Forces; a terrible Engagement follow'd, and after a bloody Conflict the royal Army supported by the provincial Troops of *Conacht* was defeated, and that martial Clan obtained a complete Victory, not a little owing (says the Manuscript) to the fervent Prayers of *Collum Cill*.

da cup epi  
eac an ro.

There is another Record call'd the *Black Book of Molaga*, which gives a different Account of the Battel of *Cuill Dreimne*. This Chronicle relates, that there was a Copy of the new Testament transcrib'd from the Book of *Fiontan*, which was claimed by no Proprietor, and therefore *Fiontan* insisted, that the Copy was his as it was written from the Original, which was in his Hands. *Collum Cill* was of another Opinion, and strenuously urg'd, that since it was unknown, who wrote it, he might as well lay claim to it as another, and resolv'd to prosecute the Matter to the utmost. This Dispute was.



was managed with great Violence and Acrimony on both Sides, and occasioned such Disturbance, that *Diarmuid* was obliged to interpose and decide the Dispute. The King heard the Pretensions of both Parties, and weighing deliberately the Arguments that were offered, he gave Sentence in Favour of *Fionnán*, using this familiar Proverb, that *the Cow and the Calf ought always to go together*, and therefore the Proprietor of the Original had an undoubted Right in the Copy, till the Transcriber, who was the true Owner, thought fit to lay in his Claim. This Repulse was resented by *Colum Cill*, who found Means to engage the King in a War, which occasioned the memorable Battle of *Cuill Dreimne*. The Battle of *Cuill Rathain* fought between the *Dairna-ruidhe* and the Inhabitants of *Ulster*, was occasioned by the Resentment of *Colum Cill*, who had received some Affront from *Comhgall*, and resolved to revenge it with the Sword. *Comhgall* raised the Forces of that Province to oppose him, and both Sides came to an Engagement. The Battel of *Cuill Feadha* was likewise fought by the Procurement of *Colum Cill*. In this Action he encountered the Forces of *Colman*, the Son of *Diarmuid*, who had raised a numerous Army in Defence of his Son *Colman*, who had unfortunately killed *Baodan*, the Son of *Ninneadhá*, King of *Ireland*, at *Leim an Eich*, which young Prince was committed to the Charge and Tuition of *Colum Cill*.

It has been observed before, that *Colum Cill* came out of *Scotland*, attended by many Prelates, Presbyters, and Deacons; and when he came near *Dromcear*, where the Principal of the Kingdom were assembled, the Wife of *Hugh*, King of *Ireland* was incensed at his Arrival, and commanded her Son *Conall* to use these religious Foreigners with Contempt and Disrespect; and not to regard their Office, nor give them the least Countenance or Protection. This uncivil Design was soon communicated to *Colum Cill*, who being of a quick Resentment, refused to enter into the Assembly, till he had obtained his Revenge upon the Queen and the Prince for this Treatment; and therefore he addressed himself to Heaven, and importunately petitioned for an exemplary Stroke of Vengeance; which was, that the Queen and her waiting Lady, who attended near her Person, might be punish'd with a Dis-

case, which though not incurable, yet should afflict them with long and lingering Pains. This Infliction was sent by Heaven, and obliged the Queen and her Attendant to confine themselves in their Apartments and not to come abroad. During the Time that their Distemper continued, the superstitious People of the Country imagin'd that they were turned into Cranes; for it happen'd that two Cranes that were never observ'd before frequented an adjoining Ford, which made the poor Rusticks fond of this Opinion. A Poet of that Age severely lashes this superstitious Conceit, and among other satirical Lines has these following.

*The Queen astonish'd at her Feathers stood,  
And with her Maid transform'd, frequents the Flood:  
But when she sees a coming Storm, she sails  
Above the Clouds, and leaves the lowly Vales.*

The Reason of the Saint's Resentment against the Servant was, because she was the Messenger employ'd by the Queen to the young Prince to prejudice him against the Reception of *Colum Cill* and his Attendants.

After St. *Colum Cill* had accomplished his Revenge upon the Queen and her Servant, he entred the Assembly, where he was received with singular Respect, and had the Honour to be placed next to *Conall*, the Son of *Hugh*, Son of *Ammireach*, King of *Ireland*, and the Nobility and Gentry that belonged to him. But when the young Prince observed, that the Clergy were admitted into the Convention, and seated in so eminent a Place, he was moved with Indignation, and incensed twenty seven of the most furious and passionate of his Friends, who obeyed the Commands of *Conall*, and in a most barbarous Manner insulted the Clergy by pelting them with Turfs and Dirt, till they were covered with Filth, and some of them very much bruised by this violent and uncivil Treatment. St. *Colum Cill* was amazed at the Indignity, and undertaking the Cause and Protection of his Followers, he expostulated with the Assailants, and boldly inquired at whose Instigation it was, that the Privileges belonging to that Assembly were so outrageously violated, and the Rights of the particular

2lyonair an  
damctioñoil  
don cleir 7  
oo colum  
eille 7c.

particular Members so insolently invaded? and when he understood, that *Conall*, the King's Son, was the Director and the principal Cause of this Barbarity, he warmly represented to the Prince the Heinousness of the Fact; and (as the Chronicle goes on) he caused seven and twenty *Bells* to be rung, and by these *Bells* he laid the most heavy Curses and dreadful Imprecations upon him; which had that Effect as to deprive *Conall* of his Sense and Understanding, and in the End occasioned the Loss of his Estate, and of the Succession it self to the Crown of *Ireland*. This cruel Prince from the *Curse* laid upon him by ringing the *Bells* was afterwards distinguished by the Name of *Conall Clogach*. conall elo-  
sat anyo.

*Hugh*, the King of *Ireland*, had another Son, whose Name was *Daniel*, a Prince of a more human and courteous Disposition than his Brother, and who professed a reverend Regard to the Christian Religion, and the Clergy that officiated in the Administration of it. *St. Colum Cill* applied himself to this young Prince, who received him suitably to his Character and holy Function; he instantly rose up, and kissed the Cheek of the *Saint*; and among other Testimonies of Respect, he resigned his Seat, and placed *Collum* in his own Chair. The *Saint* was so affected with this uncommon Courtesy and Condescension, that he pronounced a Benediction over the young Prince, and prayed solemnly to Heaven that his Life might be crowned with Prosperity and Happiness, and after the Decease of his Father he might succeed him in the Throne of *Ireland*, and be a Blessing to his People. The Prayers of the *Saint* had their desired Success; for *Conall*, as his Right and Inheritance, his Brother being incapable to govern, was possessed of the Sovereignty of the Island, and ruled the Kingdom thirteen Years.

After these Civilities had pass'd between the *Saint* and the young Prince, *St. Collum Cill* addressed himself to the King, who was in a separate Apartment from the rest of the Assembly, and the young Prince *Daniel* with him. The King was somewhat surpris'd at the Appearance of the *Saint*; for by the Miracles which he had performed, and by the constant Success of his Prayers he became terrible to the *Irish* Court, and the King himself had a great Awe upon him when he came into his Presence. But notwithstanding he was received with great Ceremony and outward Respect, which proceeded

proceeded perhaps more from Fear than any sincere Value for his Person or his Character. The Saint was willing to prove the Integrity of the Reception, and to make Tryal of the King's Favour; and therefore he told him that he had three Requests to propose, which if they were granted, he should be convinc'd that the Civility and Reverence shew'd him outwardly by the King was real and undisguised. *Hugh* afraid to disoblige the Saint replied, that whatever his Petitions were, if it was in his Power, they should certainly be granted. *Collum* made Answer, that he was able to gratify his Desires, which were, that he would retract his Purpose of banishing the Poets, and driving them out of the Kingdom; that he would discharge *Scanlan More*, King of *Ossery*, from his Confinement, whom he kept in his Custody as a Prisoner; and that he would not transport his Army into *Scotland* to raise the chief Rents and Contributions of the *Dailriada*, or advance their Tribute beyond what was paid to his Predecessors. The King said in Answer, that it would be of infinite Prejudice to his Government, to give any Protection to the Poets; for they were a lazy, a covetous, and insatiable Body, and an insupportable Grievance to the People; for their Numbers increased daily, every superior Poet taking State upon himself, being followed by a Retinue of thirty, and those of a lower Order retaining a proportionable Number of Attendants suitable to their several Degrees, so that a third Part of the whole Kingdom had entred themselves into the Society of the Poets, to the great Decay of Trade and Industry, and the sensible Impoverishment of the Country; and therefore he was obliged for the Ease of his Subjects and his own Safety, to purge the Island of them, and transplant them into new Settlements. The Saint patiently attended to the King's Reasons, and convinced by the Force of his Arguments, he replied, that it was necessary that the College of Poets should be reform'd but not suppress'd; that he would consent to the Reduction of their Numbers, and the degrading of the greatest Part of them; yet it would be a Support and Emolument to the royal Dignity, if his Majesty after the Example of precedent Kings, retained a Poet of Honesty and Distinction in his Court, and would allow that every provincial Prince in the Island should enjoy the Privilege of a learned Poet in his Retinue, and that every Lord of a Cantred should

done filio  
1790.

should likewise maintain a Poet, if he pleased, to preserve the Exploits, and record the Genealogy of his Family. This Proposal was accepted by the King, the Expulsion of the Poets was prevented, and this Regulation was the Standard, by which the Society of the Poets were directed in future Ages, This Agreement between *St. Collum Cill* and the King of *Ireland* is thus transmitted to us in the Lines of an old Poet, called *Maol-ruthuin*.

*The Poets were secur'd from Banishment  
By Collum Cill, who by his sage Advice  
Softned the King's Resentment, and prevail'd  
That every Irish Monarch should retain  
A learned Poet; every provincial Prince  
And Lord of a Cantred were by Right allow'd  
The same Privilege and Honour.*

From this Establishment by *Hugh*, the King of *Ireland*, and *Collum Cill*, arose the continued Custom for every *Irish* Monarch to maintain a most learned and accomplished Poet in his Court for his own Use and Service: Every provincial Prince and Lord of a Cantred had the same Liberty allowed, and were obliged to settle a fixed Salary upon their Poets, that was sufficient to afford them an honourable Maintenance, and secure them from the Contempt of the People. In those Ages the Persons of Poets were esteemed sacred, and their Patrimonies and Properties inviolable. In public Wars or Commotions they were exempted from Plundering and Contributions, they paid no Taxes or Acknowledgments to the State, and their Houses were invested with the Privilege of a Sanctuary, and not to be forc'd without Sacrilege and Impiety. There were Colleges erected, and large Revenues settled upon them in the Nature of Universities, where Learning and Arts were taught and encouraged. *Rath Ceannaid* was an Academy in those Times, and so were *Mafruidh* and *Maigh Sleachta* in *Breifne*: Here free Schools were opened, and Youth educated and instructed in Antiquity, History, Poetry, and other Branches of valuable and polite Learning.

In the Reign of this *Irish* Monarch, *Eochaidh Eigeas* was the most excellent Poet, and was President over the whole Body throughout the Island; he was known



by another Name, and by some called *Dallan Forgaill*: This Governor of the Society had Authority to examine into the Qualifications and Abilities of Novices and Candidates, and upon Admission he sent them into the several Provinces of the Island; particularly he recommended *Hugh Eigeas* to *Crioch Brearg*, and *Meath Urmaol* he ordained the chief Poet in the two Provinces of *Munster*; *Seanchan*, Son of *Uairfeartaig*, he appointed to the Province of *Conacht*, and *Firb* the Son of *Muireadbach* he fixed in the Province of *Ulster*, and settled a Poet of good Learning and Ingenuity in the Family of every Lord of a *Cantred* thro' the whole Kingdom. These Poetical Professors had free Lands and Revenues assigned them for their Support by their several Patrons, they were exempted from Tax and Plunder, and invested with valuable Privileges, and over and above their Salaries, were paid for every Poem they composed, by the Person or Family that employed him.

file an gab  
e nioe de-  
nion dnyo.

The second Request that *St. Collum Cill* prefer'd to *Hugh*, the King of *Ireland*, was the Release and Enlargement of the King of *Offery*; but this Petition was denied, which so displeased the Saint, that he replied boldly, that *Sanlan* should be discharged, and that very Night should untie the Strings of his *Broges* at the Time when he was offering up his Midnight Devotion.

colum eille  
7 nioe eipn-  
on dnyo.

The third Favour that *St. Collum Cill* desired of the King of *Ireland* was, that he would not attempt to transport an Army into *Scotland* to raise the Tribute and Taxes that was usually paid by the Tribe of the *Dailriada*; for it would be an Incroachment upon their ancient Privileges, and contrary to the established Laws of his Predecessors to commit Hostilities upon that honourable Clan, which was always ready to assist the *Irish* Crown with their Arms, and expose their Lives with great Bravery in its Defence. But this Remonstrance how reasonable soever, had no Effect upon the King, who resolved to invade *Scotland* with a powerful Army, and compel that Tribe to gratify his Demand. The Saint made answer, that Providence had taken that illustrious Clan into its peculiar Protection, which was able and resolved to set Bounds to the Tyranny and Exactions of the *Irish* Crown, and would deliver the *Dailriada's* from so unjust and unprecedented Oppressions; and this was spoken with a prophetick Spirit, and

was

was afterwards literally accomplished. After this Discourse between the King and the Saint, he with the Retinue of the Clergy took leave of the Court, and prepared to return to *Scotland*. An ancient Manuscript called *Leabhar Glin da Loch*, observes that *Aodhan*, the Son of *Gabhran*, Son of *Domanguirt*, was present at the Assembly of *Dromceat*, and was allowed a Place in the Convention, and that he was among the Attendants of *St. Collum Cill*, when he had the last Intercourse with the *Irish* Monarch, and made his Compliments at his Departure. The same valuable Record asserts, that the Assembly of *Dromceat* sat constantly without Prorogation for the Space of a whole Year and one Month, where most excellent Laws were established and admitted for the correcting of Abuses in the State, and for the future Government of the People.

When *Collum Cill* had taken his final Farewel of the King and the *Irish* Court, he withdrew and came with his Followers to a Place called *Dubb Eaghuis* in *Inis Eogain*, where *Scanlan*, the King of *Offery*, was confined in close Custody; and the Night after he arrived (as the old Chronicle, tinctur'd, I am afraid, with Ignorance or Superstition, particularly mentions) a most miraculous Event happened; for a large Pillar, as it were, of Fire appeared in the Air, which it enlightned, and directly hung over the Apartment where *Scanlan* was imprisoned under a strong Guard, and loaded with Chains. The Soldiers were astonished at this fiery Appearance, which was exceeding bright and terrible, and under Surprise fell flat upon their Faces to the Ground. All the Castle was illuminated as at Midday, and a Beam of Light darted into the Room, where the King of *Offery* lay groaning under the Weight of his Irons, and (as the Tale goes on) he heard a distinct Voice, which called to him aloud, *Stand up Scanlan, give me your Hand, fear nothing, leave your Chains and Fetters behind you.* The King was in a Maze at the Vision and the Voice, but he took Courage upon Recollection, and rose up, and gave his Hand to an Angel in human Shape, who led him out of the Apartment, his Feet being at Liberty, and his Chains falling off of their own Accord. The Guards were surpris'd as the Angel was conducting the King, and demanded who they were that dared to force the Prison against the King's Command. The Angel replied that *Scanlan*, King of *Offery*, was delivered from his

his Imprisonment, which Answer confounded the Soldiers; for they thought it impossible that any human Power would make so desperate an Attempt: And by this means the King obtained his Liberty.

When they had passed the Guards, the King was presented to *Collum Cill*, with whom he was to continue that Night; and the Saint being disposed to sleep, he intended to take off his *Broges*, but he was prevented by the King, who untied them, as *Collum Cill* had predicted. The Saint in Surprise demanded who had loosened his Strings; the King answered he had done it, which gave the Saint great Satisfaction, because he had frustrated the Design of *Hugh*, the King of *Ireland*, upon that Prince, and procured his Delivery from a cruel Imprisonment.

The King of *Offery* was severely used during his Confinement, his Apartment was mean and unbecoming his Quality, and his Diet hard and exceeding coarse; for his Keepers allowed him nothing but *Salt-meat*, which so violently inflamed his Throat and raised his Thirst, that when *Collum Cill* would have talked with him about the Circumstances of his Usage and the Posture of his Affairs, his Mouth was so dry, that he could not speak plain or give an Answer, but made Signs, and by a confused Noise signified that he wanted Drink. The Saint immediately reliev'd his Thirst, and commanded *Baoithin* one of his Followers to give the King a large Bowl top full, which the King joyfully accepted and finished at three Draughts. After his Thirst was thus assuaged and his Throat cool'd, he was able to discourse, and answered the Saint particularly to every Question, and made him acquainted with his nearest Concerns. But from the Impediment that was in the Speech of the King occasioned by his Thirst, the Posterity of *Scanlan*, who succeeded him in the Command of *Offery* were observed to stammer and to pronounce their Words with a great deal of Trouble and Difficulty. The King being thus restored to Liberty, was advised by *Collum Cill* to return to his Government, and appear publicly in the Administration of Affairs. But *Scanlan* apprehended the Resentment of *Hugh*, King of *Ireland*, who would be apt to seize upon him again, and commit him to Prison under a stronger Guard with worse Usage. The Saint told him not to fear, and to inspire him with Courage he bestowed upon him his

*Episcopal*

pagbala  
ofas colum  
eille as  
Rigte of-  
rise.

*Episcopal Staff* as a Security and Protection, with a Command to leave it for him at his Convent at *Armuigh* in the County of *Offery*. The King under this sacred Assurance of Safety, returned to his Court, and reigned over his People as long as he lived without any Disturbance or Invasion from *Hugh*, King of *Ireland*.

*Scanlan* from a Principle of Gratitude acknowledged the Favours he had received from *Collum Cill*, to whom he ow'd his Life and Delivery, and enacted a Law which should oblige his Subjects, who were Masters of Families, to pay *three Pence* a Year towards the Support of the Convent, which *Collum Cill* had erected at *Armuigh* in the County of *Offery*; and this Tax was to be levied from *Bladkma* to the Sea-side. An old Poet of good Authority, who composed upon the *Ambra* or the *Vision* of *Collum Cill*, has recorded this Transaction in the following Lines.

*It is established by my royal Law,  
Which I require my Subjects to obey,  
That every Master of a Family,  
Who lives within the Extent of my Command,  
Should three Pence offer as an yearly Tribute  
To the religious Convent of Armuigh.*

After this Revenue was settled upon the Convent by a legal Establishment, *St. Collum Cill* pronounced a solemn Benediction upon the royal Family of *Scanlan*, and upon the whole County in general; but limited by this Condition, that the King and the People should pay Obedience to the Governor of the Convent, who was to exercise a Sort of spiritual Jurisdiction over all *Offery*; and likewise, that they would be just and regular in the Payment of the yearly Revenues that was fixed by Law upon themselves and their Posterity. An Account of this Transaction is transmitted to us in the same Poem, called the *Vision* of *Collum Cill*, the Verses may be thus translated.

*The fruitful Land of Offery I bless,  
The King, his Family and all his Subjects,  
Who from a Conscience of Religion  
Have bound themselves a yearly Tax to pay,  
And fix'd the same on their Posterity.*

It is to be observed, that St. *Collum Cill*, whose Memory is so valuable among the ancient *Irish*, was called originally at his Baptism by the Name of *Criomthán*; and, if we believe the Book that gives an Account of his *Vision* (whose Testimony may perhaps be questioned in some Particulars) his *Guardian Angel*, who always attended him, was known by the Name of *Axall*, and his evil *Genius*, who followed him as a Plague to infect his Mind, and inspire him with impious Thoughts and wicked Designs, was called *Demal*. This we find recorded (tho' with what Certainty it is hard to say) in the same Treatise which relates the most memorable Acts of this Saint.

*The pious Christian Hero Collum Cill  
When he was baptiz'd, receiv'd the Name  
Of Criomthán o Cuin; his guardian Angel  
Was the most watchful Axal; but the Demon  
Who, with infernal Malice stung, attended  
Upon the Saint to torture and torment him,  
Was called Demal.*

do Hēag-  
uindab dān  
dān bēn do  
nāomāb ei-  
nion dāyo  
7c.

This Change of his Name hapned when he was under the Tuition of *Florence*, or *Finghin Moigh Bille*, who was the Tutor that instructed him in the Doctrines of Religion, and had the principal Care and Management of his Education. This Master allowed his Pupil the Liberty one Day in the Week to divert himself, and go to the neighbouring Town to play with his Companions, who were Youths of the same Age; and being a Child of a very modest and agreeable Disposition, his Company was desired by all the Children in the Country, who upon the Day that he was to go abroad, would resort to the Door of the Monastery to receive him; and when they saw him coming to the Gate, they would from a Transport of Joy lift up their Hands, and cry, here comes *Collum na Cille*, which in the *Irish* Language signifies the *Pigeon of the Church*; for he was a Child distinguish'd for a meek Behaviour, and the Title was applied to him with great Propriety: When the Abbot *Florence*, who was his Guardian, observed the Name his Companions had bestowed upon the Youth, he began to think it was the Will of Heaven that he should be so called, and from that Time he gave him



him the Title of *Collum Cille*, and never used the Name of *Criomhthban* which was given him at his Baptism.

Nor is it surprising to find an Alteration in the Name of this *Saint*; for such Changes hapned frequently among the *Saints*, who were often distinguished by new Names. This we observe in a religious Person called *Muchoda*, that was a Disciple of *St. Patrick*, and was originally call'd *Carthach*; the same we find in *Caomhan*, who at the Font receiv'd the Name of *Mac Neile*, and *St. Patrick* himself was call'd *Sicar* at his Baptism, but when he came to Confirmation he had the Name given him of *Gemmus Magnus*, and afterwards when *Celestine* the Pope of *Rome* sent him into *Ireland*, to propagate the Christian Faith, he again chang'd his Name, and call'd him *Patrick*. Upon this Occasion I might instance *Fronnbhair* of *Cork*, and many others of exemplary Piety, who were distinguish'd upon Occasions by different Names, in the same Manner as *St. Collum Cill*, who from his Youth was known by that Name, notwithstanding he received the Name of *Criomhthban* when he was baptised.

It must not be omitted in this Place that the Father of *St. Collum Cill* was naturally an *Irish* Man, his Mother was likewise of the same Country, and not of a *Scottish* Descent, as some partial Historians of that Kingdom would willingly impose upon the World; and to confirm this Truth we have the Authority of a Book call'd the *Chronicle of the Saints of Ireland*, which expressly asserts that *Feidhlin* the Son of *Feargus Ceannfada*, Son of *Collum Gulban*, the Son of *Niall*, the great Hero of the *nine Hostages*, was the Father of *St. Collum Cill*; and as a farther Evidence it may not be improper to subjoin the following Verses, translated from an old Poet, whose Testimony cannot be disputed.

*The most religious Collum Cill  
Descended from the royal Race of Felix,  
Son of Feargus, most renown'd in War,  
Son of the invincible Conull Gulban.*

This is the Genealogy of *Collum Cill* by his Father's Line, and that he was likewise of *Irish* Extraction by the Family of his Mother, appears from the Testimony of the Treatise before mention'd, call'd the Vision of *Collum Cill*, which records, that *Eithne*, the Daughter of *Dioma*,

*Dioma*, Son of *Naoi*, who came from the Posterity of *Cairbre Niafer*, King of *Leinster*, was the Mother of this Saint; the following Verses are translated from the same Writer.

*Eithne, a Noble and a virtuous Princess,  
Sprung from the illustrious Line of Cairbre;  
Was Daughter of Dioma, Son of Naoi,  
And Mother to St. Collum Cill.*

This *Irish* Saint mortified his Body by a continued course of Abstinence and Austerity, which by this severe Usage became so macerated, that his Bones had almost pierced through his Skin; and when the Wind blew hard through the Wall of his Cell which was unplaster'd, and forc'd aside his upper Garment, his Ribs became visible through his Habit; for by his Fasting and other Acts of Devotion he was no more than the Image of a Man, and was worn to a very ghastly Spectacle. An ancient Poet has transmitted this Description of *St. Collum Cill* in the following Verses:

*This pious Saint, as a religious Penance,  
Lay on the cold Ground, and thro' his Garments  
His Bones look'd sharp and meagre; his poor Cell  
Was open to the Inclemency of the Winds,  
Which blew thro' the unplaster'd Walls.*

The Age of this Saint, as the most authentick Chronicles relate, was seventy seven Years. This Computation is justified by the Account of *Dallan Forguill*, who wrote the Vision of *St. Collum* soon after his Decease; He was a Poet, and upon this Occasion has these Verses.

*Saint Collum Cill, after a pious Life  
Of seventy seven Years, breath'd out his Soul,  
And was translated to the heavenly Choir  
Of Angels and Archangels, as a Reward  
Due to his Virtues.*

do 2limfen  
eholuia eil  
le an eipin 7  
an Albain.

The first forty three Years of his Life he spent in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, that was his native Country; then he removed into *Scotland*, where he continued thirty four Years; the Author of the Vision of this Saint has

has recorded these Particulars of his Life in the Lines subjoin'd.

*Forty three Years this Christian Hero liv'd,  
Among his Irish Countrymen, then inspir'd  
With Zeal to propagate the Christian Faith  
He visited the Scots, to whom he preach'd  
The Gospel four and thirty Years.*

The three principal Places where St. Collum usually resided are known by the Names of *Aoiij* in *Scotland*, at *Derry* in the Province of *Ulster*, 'and at *Dunn da Leathghlaiss*, where his Body was solemnly inter'd. For these Places of Abode the Saint ever retain'd a great Affection, and mentions them with a particular Fondness in these Verses, which he compos'd himself.

*My Soul delights to meditate and pray  
At Aoiij the happy Paradise of Scotland;  
Derry the Glory of my native Isle  
I celebrate thy Praise by Nature blest'd;  
To Dunn da Leathghlaiss I bequeath my Bones,  
In Life a sweet Retreat.*

Saint Collum was naturally of a hale and robust Constitution; for the Author of his Life relates, that when he used to celebrate Mass or to sing Psalms, his Voice might be distinctly heard a Mile and a half from the Place where he was performing his Devotion; and (as we find expressly related in his Vision,) no *Evil Spirit* could bear the divine and harmonious Sound of his Voice; but fled away far out of the reach of it. To confirm this it is proper to introduce the Evidence of an ancient Poet, who, treating of the Vision of St. Collum, particularly mentions it; The Lines may be thus translated.

*Saint Collum by his sweet melodious Voice.  
Expell'd the evil Spirits, who from the Sound  
Precipitantly fled; for by Heaven inspir'd  
He charm'd the Good, but was a Scourge and Terror  
To the Profane.*

There is an Account of a wonderful Event to be met with in an old Manuscript, which perhaps may be re-  
5 F fufed

refused Belief, but cannot wholly be omitted in this Place. The Chronicle relates, that when St *Collum Cill* was in *Ireland*, there liv'd a Pagan Priest in the County of *Tyrconnel*, who erected a Temple of great Beauty and Magnificence in those Times; and among other Curiosities of Art and Workmanship, he made an Altar of fine Glass, which he superstitiously adorn'd with the Representation of the Sun and Moon; It happen'd that this Priest was seized with a sudden Distemper which took away his Senses, and he was without Motion as if he had been in a Swoon. The Devil, who it seems had a particular Resentment against the Man, took Advantage of the Opportunity, and seizing him with his Talons, was hurrying him away through the Air. St. *Collum* looking up perceived the Fiend upon the Wing bearing his Prey, and when he was flying directly over him, the Saint made the Sign of the *Cross* in the Air above his Head, which so astonish'd the Devil, that he let go his Hold and dropt the Priest, who providentially fell at St. *Collum's* Feet. This Deliverance was so gratefully receiv'd by the Priest, that after a short Discourse he became a Convert to Christianity, and when he had dedicated his Temple to the Christian Service, he bestow'd it upon St. *Collum*, and enter'd himself into a religious Order, where he led a Monastick Life, and became an eminent Confessor for the Faith of Christ. In the Reign of *Hugh* Son of *Ammereach*, King of *Ireland*, the celebrated St. *Collum* was removed to a better State.

bo bóm dinn  
ndóm dnyr  
bdn ndómet-  
nyon dnyro  
7ē.

It is to be caution'd in this Place that the Saint we are speaking of was *Collum Cill*, the Son of *Feidblin*, Son of *Feargus*, for many excellent and pious Persons in *Ireland* were afterwards known by the same Name; That valuable Record call'd *Leabhar Ruadh Mac Eógáin*, and the Chronicle of the *Irish* Saints, expressly assert, that many religious Men, and exemplary Women, and Abbesses of that Kingdom, had the same Name; they take Notice that there were two and twenty Saints in *Ireland* that were call'd St. *Collum*, the first of which Name was the Saint whose Piety and virtuous Acts have been describ'd, and in Honour of whose Memory, every one was desirous of that Title as a sort of Check and Restraint upon Immorality and Vice, and a signal Example of Temperance, Charity, and every other Christian Virtue.

We are told that there were fourteen religious Persons in *Ireland*, known by the Name of *Breannuin*; the two principal were *Breannuin Biorra* and *Breannuin Ardfeart*; and we find that there were twenty five Saints in that Kingdom call'd *Ciaran*, particularly those Holy Men *Ciaran Cluana Mac Nois*, *Ciaran Saigre*, *Ciaran Tiabruide Naoi*, and *Ciaran Cille Fionnuidhe*. Thirty were distinguish'd by the Name of *Aodhan*, and seven call'd *Bairrfionn*, of whom *Bairrfionn*, who liv'd in *Cork*, was of superior Note; this Person had another Name, and was call'd *Fionnbhair* of *Cork*, and was the Son of *Amergin*, Son of *Dubb Daibhin*, Son of *Nineadha*, Son of *Eochaidh*, Son of *Cairbre Ard*, Son of *Bryen*, Son of *Eochaidh Moighmeodkin*, King of *Ireland*. In the Convent of *Cork*, the Governor of which religious House was this *Fionnbhair*, there were seventeen Prelates constantly residing, and seven Hundred of the Clergy. There were fifteen Holy Women in *Ireland*, who were distinguish'd by the Name of *Bridget*; the most eminent of them was *Bridget* the Daughter of *Dubbthaig*, who liv'd in the Province of *Leinster*, and the Character of this pious Woman is highly valued and esteem'd among the Religious throughout *Europe*. It is certain that she descended lineally from the Posterity of *Eochaidh Fionn Fuathnairt*, who was a famous Prince and Brother to the renowned *Conn* the Hero of the *hundred Battels*, as we find it particularly mention'd in the Chronicle of the *Irish Saints*, where there is a Poem that begins with these Words, *Naomb Sbeancbus, Naomb Insi Fail*, and has the Genealogy of this Lady express'd at large in this Manner. *Bridget*, the Daughter of *Dubhbhaigh*, Son of *Dreimne*, Son of *Breafal*, Son of *Deim*, Son of *Conla*, Son of *Art*, Son of *Cairbre Niadb*, Son of *Cormac*, Son of *Aongus*, Son of *Eochaidh Fionn Fuathnairt*, Son of *Feidhlim Reachmar*, Son of *Tuathal Teachmar*, King of *Ireland*. The religious Women that were known by the Name of *Bridget* in that Kingdom were fourteen, and were these that follow; *Bridget* the Daughter of *Diama*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Mianais*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Momhain*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Eana*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Colla*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Eathair Ard*, *Bridget* of *Inis Bride*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Diamair*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Seannbotha*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Fiadhnait*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Hugh*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Luinge*, *Bridget* the Daughter of *Frochmaine*, and *Bridget* the Daughter of *Flaingé*. It



It was in the Reign of *Hugh* the Son of *Anmereach*, King of *Ireland*, (whose History is now under Consideration) that *Gaodhil* gave over *Manuinn Eogan Mac Gabbran*, being very aged at that Time. Under the Government of this Monarch *St. Caincach Achadhbo*, descended from the Posterity of *Feargus*, Son of *Roigh*, departed the present Life; about this Time it was that *Colman Rimidh* engaged in the memorable Battel of *Sleambna*, where the royal Army of *Hugh* King of *Ireland*, with his Son *Conall* at the Head of it, was defeated; soon afterwards the Battel of *Cuill Caol* was fought by *Fiachadh* the Son of *Baodan*, in which Action *Fiachadh* the Son of *Diomain*, was routed, and the greatest Part of his Army put to the Sword. After this Defeat *Conall*, the Son of *Suibhne*, obtained by his singular Bravery three complete Victories in one Day, when he conquer'd three Generals of the Name of *Hugh* viz. *Hugh Slaine*, *Hugh Buidhe* King of *Omaine*, and *Hugh Roinn* King of *O Falie*. These Battels were fought at *Bruighin da Choga*, as the following Lines expressly testify.

*The martial Conall with his valiant Troops  
Three Battels fought, and fortunately conquer'd  
The three renowned Hughs, Hugh Slaine,  
Hugh Roinn and Hugh Buidhe, who bravely fell  
With all their Forces.*

Impridh  
idh an da  
fiachadh an  
fo 7c.

*Fiachadh* the Son of *Baodain*, and *Fiachadh* the Son of *Diomain*, who are mention'd before, were engaged in perpetual Quarrels and Disputes, which were fomented with great Violence on both Sides; and they could not be persuaded to an Interview and Reconcilement, for *St. Combgoill Cill* interposed, and by the Mediation of his Prayers prevail'd that *Fiachadh* Son of *Diomain*, had always the Advantage of his Enemy, over whom he obtained several Victories. The unfortunate *Fiachadh* Son of *Baodain*, having suffer'd many grievous Defeats, applied himself to *St. Combgoill*, and desired him to favour his Interest, for he was sensible he was not so much overcome by the Arms of his Enemies, as vanquish'd by the irresistible Power of his Prayers. The Saint expostulated the Matter with him, and among other Particulars, demanded whether it was his Choice to lose his Life in Battel, and be happy afterwards in the Kingdom of Heaven,

Heaven, or to come off Victorious over his Enemies and be eternally miserable in another State. The ambitious and deluded Prince replied that he would trust his Soul in the Hands of Providence; but of all Things he desired in this World, he would chuse to subdue his Enemies in Battel; for such Exploits would make his Name immortal and mention'd with Honour to all Posterity. This Answer was very unwelcome to the Saint, who lamented the Folly of the young Prince; but proposing the same Question to *Fiachadh*, Son of *Diormain*, he made a more Christian Choice, and prefer'd the Happiness of a future Life to all the Titles of Fame, and the Glory of Conquest, which attend the victorious in this World; and the Wisdom of this Prince was so acceptable to the Saint that he received him under his immediate Charge, intreated Heaven for Success in all his Undertakings, and by his Prayers obtained Victory for him in every Engagement.

Every principal Family of the Nobility and Gentry throughout the Kingdom of *Ireland* expressed a singular Veneration and Reverence for some particular Saint, whose Name they invoked, and whose Protection they implored upon all Occasions, and this will appear evidently from the Instances that follow. The Family of the *Tuathallachs* and *Byrns* applied themselves to St. *Caoimhgin* of *Glindaloch*, the *Cinsalach* committed themselves to the Care of *Maoidog Fearna*, the *Cavanagh Moiling*, the *Moors*, in the *Irish* Language *ó Mordha*, addressed to *Fiontan* of *Cluain Aidnach*, *Offery* call'd upon *Caineach Achaidho*, the *O Bryens Atharlach* directed their Prayers to *Seadhna*, *Muskry Mac Diarmuid* placed themselves under the Care of *Gobnuit*, *Imocuille* fixed upon St. *Colman*, with many other noble Families that might be mentioned in this Place. There was not a County or Territory in all the Kingdom but what had a particular Saint, whose Name they invoked in all Emergencies, and who was made choice of as the Guardian of themselves, their Families, and Fortunes. But the Saints we have already mentioned were not the most distinguished; for the most popular Names throughout the Island were such as *Finghin* or *Florence* of *Moigh Bille*, *Ciaran Cluana*, *Combgoill Beannchoir*, *Bridget* of *Kildare*, *Eilbe* of *Imligh* and St. *Patrick*. These Saints are particularly recorded with the Provinces and Families they had the Charge of by *Aongus Ceile de*, who

composed the Book called the *Psalter na Rann*, from whence the following Lines are extracted that were written by the same Author.

*The illustrious Tribe of the O Neills address'd  
Themselves in their religious Offices  
To the devout St. Collum; the Men of Ulster  
Invok'd the Help of Finghin Maigh Bille.  
The noble Family of the Dalnaruidhe  
Implor'd the kind Protection of Comhgoill.  
Bridget, a Lady lineally deriv'd  
From a renowned Race of Kings, took Charge  
Of Leinster; and the most devout St. Ailbe  
Presided over Munster. These were Saints  
Of an inferior Order when compar'd  
With the divine St. Patrick, who possess'd  
The first Place in the Irish Kalendar  
And was the Guardian Angel of the Isle.*

brandubh R.  
o's laigheon  
agur laighe  
nagce do  
mab Rios  
eipnoh.

In the Reign of *Hugh*, Son of *Ammereach* King of Ireland, *Brandubh*, the Son of *Eochaidh*, Son of *Muireadbach*, Son of *Aongus*, Son of *Feidhlim*, Son of *Eana Ciesalach*, was King of *Leinster*, and governed that Province for one Year. This provincial Prince engaged in a War with *Hugh*, the *Irish* Monarch, and after several sharp Disputes he defeated the royal Army in the celebrated Battel of *Beallach Dunbolg*, where *Hugh*, the Son of *Ammereach* was unfortunately slain. After this Victory the ancient Records assert, that the Inhabitants of *Leinster* rebell'd against *Brandubh*, who raised a considerable Force to suppress the Traytors; but they were supported with superior Numbers and engaged the King in the Battel of *Camcluain*, by *Saran Saoibhdearg* of *Seann-boith*, in which Action the King, after a terrible Slaughter of his Troops, lost his Life. This memorable Event is related by an old Poet of good Authority in the following Lines.

*The most heroic Saran Saoibhdearg  
Of ancient Scanboith, with his Sword,  
Engag'd the warlike Brandubh, King of Leinster,  
And slew him Hand to Hand.*

A. D. 587; *Hugh Slaine* seized upon the Government; he was the Son of *Diarmuid*, Son of *Feargus Ceirbbeoil*, Son of *Connall Creamhthuine*, Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the nine Hostages,

*Hostages*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and he admitted as a Partner in the Sovereignty, *Colman Rimidh* the Son of *Mortough*, Son of *Earca*, deriv'd from the same illustrious Family. These Princes were the succeeding Monarch, and ruled jointly with great Friendship for the space of six Years. The Mother of *Hugh Slaine* was *Mungan* the Daughter of *Congearuinn*, Son of *Duach*, of the Province of *Conacht*, and he contracted Marriage with *Eithne* the Daughter of *Breaminn Dall*, of the same Part of the Country; By this Lady he had six Sons and their Names were *Diarmaid*, *Donagh*, *Maolbreasail*, *Maolodhar*, *Congal* and *Oilioll*. This King was particularly distinguish'd by the Name of *Aodha Slaine*; and he was known by that Title, because his Mother was delivered of him upon the River *Slaine*. In the Reign of these *Irish* Princes *Gregory* the *Roman* Pontiff deputed *St. Augustine* the Monk with a Commission to propagate Christianity in *Britain*, into which Country he came attended with a great Number of Clergy whose Business was to obey his Orders and assist him in that religious Undertaking; This Transaction is contradicted by some Writers, who assert, that five Missioners of the Name of *Augustin* arriv'd in *Britain* at the same Time, which account may be justly suspected to be a Mistake. *Colman Rimidh* fell by the Sword of *Lochan Diolmbain*, and *Hugh Slaine* was kill'd by *Conull Gutbbhin*; such was the unfortunate End of these Princes, who sat jointly in the Throne of *Ireland*.

*Aodh Uairiodhnach* succeeded; He was the Son of *Daniel*, Son of *Mortough*, Son of *Muireadbach*, Son of *Eogan*, Son of *Niall*, the famous Hero of the nine *Hostages*, descended from the Posterity of *Heremon*, and was blest'd with a long Reign; for he enjoy'd the Sovereignty seven and twenty Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Bridget* the Daughter of *Orcha*, Son of *Eirc*, Son of *Eachach*; and the Occasion of his being call'd *Aodh Uairiodhnach*, was because he was troubled with acute Pains, and frequently felt *Stitches* in his Side; for the Word *Jodhnach* in the *Irish* Language signifies in the *English* a Cold *Stitch*, and *Uair* is the *Irish* Word for an *Hour*, because his Distemper was regular in its Attack, and seized him constantly at certain *Hours*; So that by joining these Words together they found *Uairiodhnach*. This tormenting Disease was a great Affliction

to the King and was very sharp and violent while it lasted, infomuch that the King would cry out as upon Rack, and offer his Kingdom to be eased of it for one Hour. But notwithstanding he was subject to these Pains in his Body, he was a Prince of a martial Disposition, and could well endure the Fatigues of War; his Reign met with frequent Disturbances from *Aongus* the Son of *Colman*, who was at length totally defeated in the memorable Battel of *Odbbha*, in which bloody Conflict *Conall Laoghbreag*, the Son of *Aodha Slaine*, the preceding Monarch, lost his Life; soon after this Action *Aodh Uairiodhnach*, King of Ireland, was kill'd in the Battel of *Da Fearta*.

A. D. 618. *Maolcobha* succeeded in the *Irish* Throne, he was the Son of *Aodh* or *Hugh*, the Son of *Anmhereach*, Son of *Seadhna*, Son of *Feargus Ceannfada*, Son of *Conall Gulban*, Son of *Nial*, the celebrated Hero of the *nine Hostages*, derived from the royal Stock of *Heremon*; and administred the Government four Years. The Consort of this Monarch was *Craoiseach* the Daughter of *Hugh Fionn* King of *Offery*; and he fell by the victorious Sword of *Suibhne Meain*, in the dreadful Battel of *Bealgadin*.

A. D. 622. *Suibhne Meain* seized upon the Crown; He was the Son of *Fiachra*, Son of *Fearadhaich*, Son of *Mortough*, Son of *Muireadbach*, Son of *Eogan*, Son of *Niall*, the renowned Hero of the *nine Hostages*, a lineal Descendent from the royal Race of *Heremon*, and enjoy'd the Sovereignty thirteen Years. It was in the Reign of this *Irish* Monarch that *St. Caomhgin* of *Glindaloch* was translated to a better State, after he had been blest'd with a long Life of sixscore Years. This religious Person was the Son of *Caomhloga*, Son of *Caomhsheada*, Son of *Cuirile*, Son of *Feargus Laoibhdearg*, Son of *Meisín Cuirb*, who came from the Posterity of *Labbra Loingseach*. Under his Government likewise died *Hugh*, who was otherwise call'd *Aodha Beanain*, King of *Munster*, and about the same Time was removed by Death out of the present World, the most pious *St. Adamain*, Son of *Ronain*, Son of *Tinne*, Son of *Aodha*, Son of *Coluim*, Son of *Seadhna*, Son of *Feargus*, Son of *Conall Gulban*, Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*. The Wife of *Suibhne Meain* King of Ireland, was *Rona* the Daughter of King *ua Durtri*; This Prince met with an untimely Fate, as did most of his Predecessors, and was slain by *Conall Claon*, Son of *Sganlann Sgiath Leathan*.



*Daniel* possess'd the Sovereignty of *Ireland*; He was the Son of *Hugh*, Son of *Ammereach*, Son of *Seadbna*, Son of *Feargus Ceannfada*, Son of *Conull Gulban*, Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, descended from the royal Posterity of *Heremon*, and sat upon the Throne thirteen Years. It was this Prince that fought the terrible Battel of *Dunn Ceitbern*, where he engaged *Conull Claon*, whom after a dreadful Slaughter of his best Troops, he routed and drove out of the Field. In the Reign of this *Irish* Monarch, *St. Frontain*, who was likewise known by the Name of *Muna*, exchanged the present Life for a better: And about the same Time *Carthach Mochuda* was banished from *Rathan* to *Lismore*. Under the Government of this Prince hapned the Death of *Mochua* and *Molaise*, the pious Bishops of *Leithglin*. *Carthach Mochuda* before mentioned was a Descendent from the noble Family of *Ciar*, Son of *Feargus mac Roigh*, and undertaking a Pilgrimage from *Kerry* to *Rathan*, when he arrived he erected an Abby in that Place, and settled in it a Number of Monks, to the Number (as some Records assert) of seven hundred and ten. These religious Persons were distinguished by their Piety and holy Lives, and their Character was so valuable among the People, that it was given out, that an *Angel* usually conversed with every third Person in a familiar Manner.

The great Reputation of these Monks of *Rathan* raised a Jealousy among the Religious who lived in the Convent of *Jobh Neill*, and lost Ground considerably in the Affections of the People. To recover their Character, they sent Messengers to *Mochuda* to desire him to leave *Rathan*, and repair to his own Country, which was the Province of *Munster*. The Saint refused the Invitation, and replied resolutely, that he would never forsake his pious Monks of *Rathan* till he was compell'd by Violence either by a King or a Bishop invested with proper Authority. This Answer enraged the Monks of *Clanna Neill*, who resolved to force the Saint from *Rathan*, incensed *Blathmac* and *Diarmuid*, who came attended by a Body of the Northern Clergy in a tumultuous Manner, with a Design to seize upon *Mochuda*, and drag him out of his Convent. When the Saint was informed of the Violence projected against him, and that his Enemies were approaching, he dispatched a *Pictish* Nobleman of *Scotland*, who was a Lay

garle 7  
elein clana  
Neill anyo.

do fud 2ho-  
zuba eabe  
da blaodan  
San ionaba  
a Rathan.

*Monk* in the House, to treat with *Blathmac*, and desire the Favour of continuing with his Monks at *Rathan* for the Space of a Year longer without Disturbance; the Name of this religious *Pict* was *Constantine*. *Blathmac* was prevail'd upon to allow a Year's Respite, and, without offering any Violence, returned home with his Followers. When the Time was expired *Blathmac* came to *Rathan* expecting *Mochuda* and his Monks would quit the Convent, and when he arrived he sent a Clergyman into the House to require the *Saint* to fulfil the Agreement, and leave the Monastery without giving him the Trouble of an Ejectment. But *Mochuda* unwilling to forsake the Convent, which he had erected for a religious Use, dispatched the pious *Constantine* to *Blathmac*, intreating him not to proceed in his Design, and force him out by Violence, and promising him withal, that if he would allow him to continue there with his Monks for one Year more, he would withdraw without giving him more Trouble. This Request with great Difficulty was obtained, and the Saint remained undisturbed till the Time expired. But at the End of the Year *Blathmac* with his Clergy about him returned to *Rathan*, and when he found *Mochuda* and his Monks continued in the Convent, he raised a Company of rude Fellows in the Neighbourhood with a Design to force the House and apprehend the Saint. The Leader in this Enterprise was *Diarmuid Ruaghneigh*, who was followed by the principal of the Tribe of *Cluain Aongusa*.

Supported with this Assistance *Diarmuid* advanced toward the Abby Gate, and not attempting to enter, he fixed himself behind the Door on the outside, which stood wide open. *Mochuda* was soon inform'd of this Attempt, and without any sign of Fear or Surprise he came to the Gate, where *Diarmuid* was, and when he had address'd him with great Civility, he courteously invited him into the Convent, but *Diarmuid* did not accept of the Invitation, and could by no means be induced to go in. This Denial astonish'd the Saint, who expected to be used with Violence, and demanded the meaning of his Refusal, and whether he did not come with such a Number of Followers on purpose to seize upon him and his Monks, and by Force eject them out of the Monastery. *Diarmuid* acknowledg'd that the Design of his Arrival, and those hostile Preparations, were to apprehend him, and in case of Resistance and Opposition,

Opposition, to seize him and turn him and his *Religious* out by Force; but says he, I find a Compunction in my Mind and dare not prosecute this Attempt, which I am concern'd that I any way engaged in, for I have that Veneration for your profess'd Piety, and the Dignity of your sacred Character, that I should incur the Guilt of Sacrilege should I impiously lay Hands upon you, or presume to violate this Structure devoted to the Purposes of Religion and the pure Worship of God. May that God therefore, replied *Mochuda*, shower his divine Blessings upon you and your Posterity, you are worthy to sit in the Throne of *Ireland*, which would be happy under the Command of so pious a Prince, and I pray God that the Crown may be fix'd upon your royal Head, and by an uninterrupted Succession descend to your Family, for many Ages. Nor (continued he) would I have you be concern'd at the Scoffs and Indignities you will be apt to receive at your Return to *Blathmac* and his profane Companions; for they will in Derision bestow a Title upon you, and call you by the Name of *Diarmuid Ruaighnigh*, yet that Name shall be a Distinction of Honour to your self and your Posterity.

With this Encouragement from St. *Mochuda* *Diarmuid* return'd to *Blathmac*, who expecting the Saint and his Monks, passionately inquired why he had not enter'd the Convent, and forced away the Members of the House, if they refused to follow him with Consent. *Diarmuid* replied, that he never design'd to offer Violence to so religious a Person. To which Answer *Blathmac* return'd scoffingly, *that I confess was Ruaighnigh*, which was as much as to say, it was Charitably done; for the Word *Ruaighnigh* in the *Irish* Language signifies *charitable* in the *English*. The whole Company immediately derided him with the same Appellation; and by that means the Prediction of the Saint was accomplish'd; upon the Account of this Circumstance the Descendants of *Diarmuid* were call'd *Sliocht Diarmuda Ruaighnigh* for many Generations.

*Blathmac* still persisted in his Resolution of forcing the Convent, and expelling the Monks, and follow'd by a Number of rude prophane People, he advanc'd towards the Abby. The Gate was found open, and he seized *Mochuda*, and using him in a very rude and disrespectful Manner, he thrust him and his Monks out

longba Mochuda a Ra-can anyo.

of their Apartments, and made fast the Gates. This barbarous Treatment was so resented by the Saint, that he curs'd him with dreadful Imprecations, and implored Heaven to revenge this cruel Persecution upon his Family.

*Mochuda* after this Expulsion was uncertain whither to retire and conduct his distress'd Followers, but at length he resolv'd to lead them towards the County of *Deiffyes*, in the Province of *Munster*; and while the Saint was upon his Journey (as the Chronicle asserts) he perform'd many Miracles, and work'd Wonders among the People. When he arrived in that Country with his Monks, he applied to the King of the *Deiffyes*, who gave him a courteous and honourable Reception, and made Provision for the Saint and his Followers; and in a short Time *Mochuda* was so sincerely respected by the King, that he committed himself and the Affairs of his Government to his Care and Administration, and took him with him to *Dunsginne*, which Place has chang'd its Name, and is the same with *Lismore* at this Day. This is the Account extracted faithfully from the *Irish* Chronicles, concerning the Expulsion of *Mochuda* and his Monks from the Abby of *Rathban*, of their Arrival in the County of *Deiffyes*, of the Entertainment they receiv'd from the King, who made Provision for them, and settled them in *Lismore*.

do c65ab  
211amirter  
leayd moir  
le 211otaod.

It is to be observ'd in this Place that the remarkable Battel of *Muighbrath*, was fought by *Daniel* the Son of *Hugh*, Son of *Anmhereach*, in which terrible Conflict *Conall Claon* was unfortunately slain after he had govern'd the Province of *Ulster* ten Years. In the Reign of *Daniel* the following *Saints*, who were most eminent for their Piety in those Times, departed the present Life, viz. *St. Mochuo*, who was descended from the Posterity of *Cathaoir More*; this religious Person erected and consecrated *Tigh Mochuo* in *Lex*, otherwise call'd in the *Irish* Tongue *Laoighis*: *St. Mochuda*, *Molaise Leithgline*, *Combdban Mac da Chearda*, and the devout *Cronan* Bishop of *Caoidrom*. This Prince died soon afterwards of a natural Death, which is the more remarkable, because most of his Predecessors fell by the Sword.

A. D. 648.

*Conall Claon* obtained the Sovereignty, and admitted his Brother *Ceallach* as a Partner in the Government. These Princes were the Sons of *Maolchabha*, Son of *Hugh*, Son of *Anmhereach*, Son of *Seadbna*, Son of *Fe-*

† *argus*,

*argus Ceannfada*, Son of *Conall Gubban*, Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and fill'd the Throne with Peace and Unanimity thirteen Years; In the Reign of these <sup>Euge 7 1a02</sup> Brothers *Cuanna* the Son of *Cailchine*, derived from <sup>liacurme anyo 7c.</sup> the illustrious Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, and, who was King of *Fearney* in South *Munster*, departed this Life; This Prince was otherwise call'd the renown'd Champion of *Liathmuine*, and was Cotemporary with the celebrated *Guaire* Son of *Colman*, King of *Conacht*, and resembled that noble Person in his Acts of Munificence and Charity; for he was continually extending his Relief to the Poor and Indigent, he was Liberal to Men of Learning in all Professions, and hospitable to Strangers, which were Accomplishments that *Guaire* was distinguish'd by, who is deliver'd down by the *Irish* Writers as the Standard of these Princely and uncommon Virtues to Posterity. Upon this Occasion the following Verses were composed by *Conall* and *Comhdan*, who had an excellent Genius for Poetry, and were the Laureats of that Age.

*The most illustrious Guaire, the Son of Colman,  
A liberal and hospitable Prince  
Was equal'd in his Virtues by Cuana,  
The brave and pious Champion of Liathmuin.*

In the Reign of *Conall Claon* and his Brother *Ceallach*, *Ragallach* the Son of *Uadbach*, who had govern'd the Province of *Conacht* for five and twenty Years, was <sup>maba 2io5</sup> kill'd by *Maolbride*, the Son of *Mothlachan*, and met <sup>Conaf anyo 7c.</sup> with an inglorious Fate from the Hands of a base vile Rabble, of Mechanicks and Labourers that were his immediate Executioners. This *Ragallach* had conceiv'd a violent Hatred and Aversion for the Son of his elder Brother, whose Right to the Crown he had invaded, and was fearful lest he should be disturb'd in his Government by the Pretensions of his Nephew, who was the next Heir in Succession, and had a formidable Interest in the Affections of the People. He resolv'd therefore to remove him out of the Way, and had made several Attempts upon his Life, but without Success; but when he perceiv'd his wicked Designs defeated, and that it was impossible to murder him by open Violence, by reason of his Popularity, he had recourse to a Stratagem, which effected his Purpose, and concluded in the Death of the



Ragallac  
 as 137cc  
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 mac abeg  
 bram3 do  
 maabas.

young Prince. *Ragallach* it seems was so concern'd that he could not destroy the young Prince, that he contracted a languishing Disease, and fell into a Consumption, and to conceal his Treachery the better, he sent a Message to his Nephew, to desire a Visit from him before he died, for his Disease he judg'd to be incurable, and therefore he passionately expected to see him, for he design'd to leave the Government to him, and to settle upon him the Crown of *Conacht*; The Prince and his Friends soon discovered the Meaning of this disguised Friendship, and resolving to go to Court upon the Invitation, he raised a considerable Force to attend him as a Guard, but charged them to behave themselves without committing Hostilities, only to have their Swords drawn under their Cloaks, and be in Readiness if any Violence should be offered by his Uncle, whose Treachery he suspected, and was apprehensive some Attempt would be made upon his Life. Under this strong Guard the Prince and his Friends arrived at the Court of *Conacht*, and being introduced into the King's Presence, who lay languishing upon his Bed, he enquired courteously after his Health, and the Nature of his Distemper. The King was surpris'd when he saw the Prince enter his Chamber with so numerous a Retinue, and with a seeming Concern, he told him it was the greatest Trouble of his whole Life to be suspected of Insincerity by the Person he fully designed should wear the Crown after his Decease; for there could be no Occasion for such a Guard and so many Followers, unless he apprehended some Danger, which was unreasonable to suppose from an expiring King who so dearly valued him, and resolved to declare him his Successor. And therefore he desired to see him again the next Morning, but without Attendants, for he had something of Importance to communicate, which was not proper to be divulg'd before Company, nor indeed (continued he) am I able to bear the Suspicion of my dear Nephew, who, by the Number about him, must be jealous of my Friendship, which confounds me upon a Death Bed, when I'm preparing to leave the World, and fix him in the Succession to the Crown of *Conacht*. The Nephew deceived by the Hypocrisy of his perfidious Uncle, went to visit him the next Day unattended and without his Guards, and he had no sooner entered the Chamber, but upon a Sign given a Body of Soldiers,

diers, who were prepared for the Execution, follow'd him, and falling upon him in a barbarous Manner left him dead upon the Spot. *Ragallach* being thus delivered from his Fears by destroying the rightful Heir, he began to recover from his languishing State of Health, his Consumption daily abated, and his Cure was perfected in a short Time. He had now no Apprehensions of a Competitor to give him Disturbance, and therefore he abandoned himself to Ease and Indolence, neglected the weighty Affairs of his Government, and consumed his Time and his Revenue in Rioting, Feasting and Sensuality.

This treacherous Prince *Ragallach* had for his Wife a compassionate and well disposed Lady, whose Name was *Marron*, and she so lamented the miserable Death of the young Prince, that she was afraid that the Gods (for she was a Pagan) would revenge this Cruelty upon her Husband or herself in an exemplary Manner; and therefore she had Recourse to an eminent *Augur* retained in the Family, and inquired of him whether the Vengeance of Heaven was concern'd to punish the Murther, and who would suffer for that monstrous Act, *Ragallach*, who contrived his Execution, or her self, who was no Way privy to it. The Soothsayer replied by the Rules of his Art, that the Death of her Nephew would be reveng'd upon the King and her self, and that by the most unexpected Means, and by the Hands of her own Child; for the Child she had then in her Womb would be the Instrument appointed by Providence to punish this barbarous Murther, which would be amply revenged upon *Ragallach* and herself. The Queen, astonished with this Answer, informed the King, who resolved to destroy the Child as soon as it was born, and by that Means defeat the Prediction of the Druid. The Lady was soon after delivered of a Daughter, and in Obedience to the King's Commands, the Infant was thrown naked into a Bag, and given to a Swineherd to be destroyed. But the Man looking upon the Child, was so moved with its Cries and the sweet Beauty of its Face, that he relented with Compassion, and resolving to preserve its Life, he carried it privately to the Door of a religious Woman, who lived in a Cell in the Neighbourhood, and hung the Bag upon a Cross that stood in full View of the Woman's House. In that Condition the helpless Babe lay exposed, and the Swineherd

herd for Fear of a Discovery return'd by unfrequented Ways to his own Dwelling: But Providence order'd, that the Woman came home within a short Time, and hearing the mournful Cries of a distressed Infant, she soon perceiv'd the Bag hanging upon the Cross, and taking it down, she found a most beautiful Babe, which she assisted in the best Manner she was able, and became so delighted with her Foundling, that tho' her Circumstances were mean, she resolv'd to breed her up at her own Charge.

Shileaf na  
hagine is  
ccedaf an  
dof.

The Child was nursed and educated with great Care and Tendernefs, and when she began to grow up, she discovered so beautiful a Complexion and so compleat a Person, that the Fame of her spread over all the Country, and came at last to the Ears of the King of *Conacht*. *Ragallach*, who was a very lascivious Prince, was so charmed with the Description of this rural Maid, and the Character of her uncommon Beauty, that he sent a Messenger to bring the Girl to Court, and if the supposed Mother refused to part with her, he was not to use Violence upon the first Summons but return with all possible Speed with an Answer. The Woman, who valued the Maid with the most tender Affections of a Parent, denied to send her Child, and the Messenger returning with Notice of her Refusal, the King was so abandon'd to his Passion, that he sent positive Orders to force her away, and bring her to the Court of *Conacht*. His Commands were faithfully executed by the Messenger; and when the Maid was admitted into the Presence of *Ragallach*, he was so charm'd with the Modesty of her Carriage and the Beauty of her Person, that he resolv'd to preserve her for his own Use, and within a short time she was received into his Embraces. This Contempt and Indignity enraged the Queen, who boldly represented to the King the Injustice and Scandal of the Action, but without Success; for he was resolv'd to gratifie his Pleasure at all Hazards, and persisted in his Converse with this Country Beauty, whom he resolv'd to retain at the Expence of his Character, and of the Indignation of a jealous Queen, who resent-ed this Affront in the most outrageous Manner.

iomad do  
brynb naok-  
ta as gye  
Ragallach  
laice.

When the Queen perceived that her Persuasions and her Menaces were ineffectual, she applied herself to the most eminent Clergy of the Kingdom to represent the Wickedness of this Practice to the King, and prevail

vail with him to dismiss his Concubine; and accordingly *Feichin Fabbair*, attended with a great Number of eminent Divines and religious Persons of several Orders, came to *Conacht* to address the King upon this Occasion, and in the most submissive Manner intreat him to desist from that impious Course of Life; and banish his Mistress the Court. They were soon admitted into the Presence of *Ragallach*, and used all possible Arguments to prevail with him, but without Success; for he was a Prince of a libidinous Disposition, and refused absolutely to comply with their Request; which so enraged the Clergy, that they left the Court, and implored the Justice of Heaven to overtake the King by a most signal Stroke; they loaded him with the most dreadful Imprecations, and prayed to God that he might not live till the *May* following; that he might receive his Death by the most despicable Weapons; that the meanest Persons and the very Scum of Mankind might be the Executioners of the divine Vengeance; and that he might die in a Place unbecoming the Majesty of a King, and end his Days in a most vile and ignominious Manner. These Imprecations of the Clergy were heard, and were accomplished in the most minute Circumstance; for (as the Chronicle continues the Relation) *Ragallach* and his Nobles were diverting themselves in an Island by hunting a Stag; the Beast had received a Wound, and coming near the Place where the King was expecting him, he threw a Dart with that Force and Judgment, that he pierc'd him thro' the Body. The Stag in this Extremity plunged into a Lake that was near, and the King with his Followers took Water and persued him. The Beast reached the farther Shore, and ran into a Field where some Labourers of the Country were cutting Turf. The Stag, by the Pains of his Wound, and the Fatigue of Swimming, was ready to drop, which when the Rusticks perceived, they ran upon him and killed him, and by Consent divided the Flesh equally between them. By this Time *Ragallach* and his Retinue came up, and finding the Boors cutting up the Beast, he was in a great Passion, and commanded them to resign the Stag, and deliver it to the Huntsman to be carried to Court; but the Countrymen resolved not to part with their Booty; and upon a short Consultation they perceived the King had but few in his Company, and found themselves able to defend their

Prey; accordingly they fell upon the King with their Spades and other Tools, and without much Difficulty they dismounted *Ragallach*, and left him and most of his Followers dead upon the Spot. Thus did Heaven confirm the Prayers of the Clergy, and punish'd a wicked and lascivious Prince, who committed Murther to secure himself upon the Throne, and lost his Life for the Sake of a Concubine. *Mairion*, the Queen of *Conacht*, did not long survive; for the Neglect of her Husband threw herself into a melancholy Distemper, which occasioned her Death; nor did the Daughter long enjoy the Pleasures of a Court; for she soon died unlamented; and Vengeance justly punished such wicked and promiscuous Mixtures.

budo eada  
le bignib  
do bñbe  
eleine elu-  
din mae no-  
is 7ae.

In the Reign of *Conall Claon*, King of Ireland, was fought the noted Battel of *Carn Conuill* by *Diarmuid*, the Son of *Aodha Slaine*, in which Engagement was killed *Cuan*, the Son of *Ambalgadgh*, who had governed the Province of *Munster* ten Years. In the same Action fell *Cuan Conuill*, King of *Figinte* and *Talmonach*, King of *O Liathain*. This Victory, we are told, was in a great Measure owing to the incessant Prayers of the Religious belonging to the Convent of *Cluain Mac Nois*, who fervently addressed themselves to Heaven for the Success of *Diarmuid*, who, after a bloody Conflict and terrible Slaughter, won the Battel. The Victor, when he return'd, bestow'd a valuable Tract of Land and great Privileges upon the Convent; and the Estate he settled at that Time is known at this Day by the Name of *Liath-mantain*; and he had that Veneration for the Abby of *Cluain Mac Nois*, that he ordered by his Will, that there his Body should be inter'd, which was done accordingly. The most pious St. *Fursa* died about this Time; she was of the royal Line, descended from the Posterity of *Lughaidh Laga*, Brother to *Oilioll Olum*; and St. *Mocheallog*, who erected and consecrated *Cill Mocheallog*, was soon afterwards translated to a better State: This religious Person was derived from the Family of *Conaire*, the Son of *Eidersgeoil*. The Brothers who sat jointly in the Throne of Ireland concluded their Reign in this Manner, *Ceallach* was lost in *Brugh Os Boyne*, and *Conall* was kill'd by *Diarmuid*, the Son of *Aodha Slaine*.

A. D. 661. *Blathmac* and *Diarmuid Ruaidhnaigh*, the two Sons of *Aodha Slaine*, Son of *Diarmuid*, seiz'd upon the Sovereignty.



verignty. These Princes descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and reigned over the Island seven Years. In the Government of these Brothers the memorable Battel of *Pantly* was fought, in which bloody Engagement the King of *England*, with thirty of his principal Nobility, was slain. About this Time that religious Person *St. Olvan* died, and *Maoidog*, descended from the Posterity of *Colla Uais*, Monarch of *Ireland*, who built and consecrated the Church of *Fearna*, left the present World, and was removed to a better; he was followed by *Cuimin Foda*, the Son of *Fiachradh* the Monk, and by *St. Mannach*, the Son of *Finghin* or *Florence*, King of *Munster*. These two Brothers, *Blathmac* and *Diarmuid*, died of the Plague that for Distinction was called *Baidhe Connuill*.

*Seachnufach* was the Successor in the Throne of *Ireland*; he was the Son of *Blathmac*, Son of *Hugh*, otherwise called *Aodha Slaine*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and reigned Monarch of the Island six Years. In the Government of this Prince the Battel of *Feirt* was fought between the Inhabitants of the Province of *Ulster* and the *Picts*, where there was a terrible Slaughter of both Armies. In the Reign of this Prince died the most pious *Baoithin*, Abbot of *Beannchuir*: *Seachnufach* was afterwards killed by *Dubb Duin* of *Cineol Cairbre*. A. D. 668.

*Cionnsaola*, the Son of *Blathmac*, Son of *Aodha Slaine*, Son of *Diarmuid*, possessed the Sovereignty, and reigned four Years. Under the Administration of this Prince the Convent of *Beannchuir* was consumed by Fire to the Ground, and all the Members of that religious House were dispossest'd and expell'd by invading Foreigners. This Monastery was distinguished by the Name of *Beannchuir*, upon the Account of *Breasal Breac*, King of *Ireland*. This Prince transported a numerous Army into *Scotland*, and was so successful in his Expedition, that he returned with considerable Booty, and among the rest he brought over with him a great Number of horned Cattle. When he arrived in *Ireland*, he encamped with his Forces in the Place now called *Beannchuir*, where he was obliged for the Support of his Troops to kill many of these Beasts, and their Horns were scattered all over the Plain, which from that Time has been called by the Name of *Beannchuir* upon the Account of these Horns; for the Word *Beanna* or *Adharcadh* in the *Irish* Tongue, signifies *Horns* in the *English*. A. D. 674.

Encampment the religious Abbot *Combgoll*, erected and endow'd an Abby in the same Place, and regarding its original Appellation, occasion'd by scattering the *Horns*, he retain'd the old Name, and call'd it the Abby of *Beanne Chuir*. After this religious House was attack'd and burnt down by Foreigners, *Cion Faola*, King of *Ireland*, was kill'd by *Fiannachta Fleadbach*, the Son of *Dunchada*, in the memorable Battel of *Cealtrach*.

A. D. 678. *Fionnachta Fleadbach* obtained the Government; He was the Son of *Dunchada*, Son of *Aodha Slaine*; derived from the illustrious Line of *Heremon*, and he fill'd the Throne of *Ireland* seven Years; under the Administration of this Prince, the People of *Ireland* were accustomed to make great Feasts, and recreated themselves with noble and expensive Entertainments; and from these Sumptuous and magnificent Banquets, the King was distinguish'd by the Name of *Fionnachta Fleadbach*, for the Word *Fleadh* in the *Irish* Language signifies in the *English* a Feast. In the Reign of this Prince died *Colman* the pious Bishop of *Inis Bosinne*, and about the same Time *Fionnan*, who pronounc'd his Benediction over *Ardsonan*, left the World; this excellent Person descended from the Posterity of *Fiachadh Muilleathan*. The famous St. *Aranan* died not long afterwards. This *Fionnachta* King of *Ireland* fought the Battel of *Lochgabbhair*, against the Inhabitants of the Province of *Lemsler*, in which Engagement a great Number of the provincial Troops were cut off. The learned *Cionnsaola* died under the Government of this Monarch, and in the same Year *Dungall* the Son of *Scanlan* King of the *Picts*, and *Cionnsaola* King of *Cianachta Glinne Geimin*, were buried by *Maolduin* Son of *Maolfithrigh*, at *Dunceithrin*. In the same Reign some of the principal Commanders of the *Welsh* invaded the Kingdom of *Ireland* with a numerous and gallant Army of their Countrymen, and, as the venerable *Bede* relates in the sixth Chapter of the fourth Book of this History, committed dreadful Hostilities, and made cruel Devastations upon the *Irish* Coasts. The same Writer asserts, that in the Year of our Redemption six hundred eighty four, the Forces of the King of *England*, under the Conduct of an experienc'd General, whose Name was *Bertus*, landed upon the Island, and reduced the Inhabitants to great Extremities. His Expression is, *Bertus vastavit gentem innocentem misere & Nationi Angorum amicissimam.*

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до бѣаѣнѣ  
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*tiffimam.* Bertus miserably ravag'd that innocent Nation, which was a most friendly Ally to the English. In this Invasion was fought the famous Battel of Rathmore, at Muigh Glinne in which Aëtion Cumasgach King of the Picts, and a great Number of the Irish were slain. These resolute and hardy Welsh transported themselves from thence to the Isles of Orcades, which they subdued, and plunder'd the Country without Mercy. Some of these People landed upon the Northern Coast of Leinster, and spoiled the Inhabitants with great Cruelty, not sparing Age or Sex or even the Churches and the sacred Vessels dedicated to divine Service. After these Ravages they return'd loaded with Booty into their own Country. Fionnachta Fleadbach King of Ireland, was kill'd by Hugh the Son of Dubhthaigh, and by Conning at Greallach Dolling.

Loingseach got Possession of the Crown; He was the <sup>A. D. 685</sup> Son of Daniel, Son of Hugh, Son of Aimmereach, derived from the illustrious Race of Heremon, and govern'd the Kingdom of Ireland eight Years. In the Reign of this Prince Adamnán removed himself from Scotland; to propagate the Christian Faith among the Irish, and about the same Time Moling Luachradh left the World; Under the Government of Loingseach the Welsh invaded the Island, by whom Maigh Muirtheimbne was miserably plunder'd; Among other Misfortunes of his Reign a most dreadful and consuming Murrain raged among the Cattle throughout England and Ireland, which occasioned a most terrible and afflicting Famine among the Inhabitants, so that People were compell'd to feed upon <sup>Σαρται ἑαυτοῦς</sup> one another; and this Visitation continued with great Violence for the space of three Years. Egbertus the Saint undertook to preach the Gospel in Scotland about this Time, and Muireadbach Muilleathan King of Conacht died. The Subjects of Ulster soon afterwards engaged the Welsh in the Battel of Moigh Cuillinn, and obtained a Victory over those Foreigners, of whom a terrible Slaughter was made, and almost their whole Army slain. Adamnán the religious Abbot of Aoi in the Kingdom of Scotland died about the same Time, after a Life of seventy seven Years. It was within the Reign of Loingseach, that the Saracens invaded the Grecian Empire with an incredible Number of Forces, and attempted to make themselves Masters of the capital City Constantinople, but after a Siege of three Years, they

they were repell'd with considerable Loss, and obliged to give over the Undertaking. The pious *Coibbdean* Bishop of *Ardfert* was now removed to a better Life; and soon after the Decease of this Prelate the Battel of *Cormin*. was fought by *Ceallach* the Son of *Ragallach*, who govern'd the Province of *Conacht* seven Years, in which bloody Action *Loingseach* the Son of *Aongus*, King of *Ireland*, lost his Life.

A. D. 693. *Congall Cionnmaghair* succeeded in the Throne; He was the Son of *Feargus Fanuid*, Son of *Conull Gulban*, Son of *Niall*, the Hero of the *nine Hostages*, descended from the princely Line of *Heremon*, and he was in Possession of the Sovereignty nine Years. This *Congall* was a cruel Persecutor of the *Irish* Church, and he burn'd the regular and secular Clergy at *Kildare* without Mercy or Distinction. But the divine Vengeance pursued him and punish'd him with a sudden and unlamented Death.

A. D. 702. *Feargall* obtain'd the Government; He was the Son of *Maolduin*, Son of *Maolfithbrigh*, Son of *Hugh*, otherwise call'd *Aodba Uairiodhnach* a lineal Descendent from the Line of *Heremon*, and sat upon the Throne of *Ireland* seventeen Years. The Mother of this Monarch was *Cacht* the Daughter of *Maolchabha*, King of *Cineall Conuill*. In the Reign of this Prince died *Baodan* the Bishop of *Inis Bo Finne*. About this Time the *Welsh* and the noble Tribe of the *Dailriadas* fought a most bloody and desperate Battel at a Place call'd *Cloch Mionuire*; the Victory was in Suspence and the Slaughter was equal on both Sides for some Part of the Day, but the undaunted Bravery of that ancient Clan was not to be resisted, and the *Welsh* were routed with the Loss of the greatest Part of their Army. In the same Year *Neachtan* the King of *Scotland* expell'd his Dominions a Convent of *Monks*, who presumed to reprehend him for his Conduct, and by that means promoted Discontents among his Subjects. The Reign of this Prince was remarkable for a very wonderful Event that happen'd, and which gave a Name to *Niall Frasach*, who was born about the same Time; for three *Showers* fell from the Heavens in the Sight of a Number of Spectators, viz. a Shower of *Honey* at *Foithin Beag*, a Shower of *Money* at *Foithin More*, and a Shower of *Blood* at *Magh Laighion*.

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фмрѣ меала  
фмрѣ 2510  
7 фмрѣ фолѣ.

But

But the most memorable Transaction in the Reign of *Feargall* was the Battel of *Almbuine*, that was fought between *Morough Mac Broin* King of *Leinster*, who had govern'd that Province fifteen Years, and this *Feargall* the Son of *Maolduin*, King of *Ireland*. The royal Army raised by the King consisted of one and twenty thousand choice Troops, and the Provincial Forces that follow'd the King of *Leinster*, amounted in the whole but to nine Thousand, which were supported by eighty nine valiant and distinguish'd Champions of hardy season'd Courage, and his household Troops that were inconsiderable in Number, but of undaunted Bravery. Both Armies enter'd the Field, and a most Bloody and desperate Engagement follow'd; but the Provincial Troops made so dreadful an Impression in the beginning of the Action, that they pierced into the King's Army and put them into Confusion with incredible Slaughter. And notwithstanding a great Superiority of Numbers, *Feargall* was forc'd to give way, Victory declared for the King of *Leinster*, and three thousand three hundred of the Enemy were left dead upon the Field of Battel. At the first Onset an unaccountable Terror seized upon the royal Army, occasion'd, as some Authors assert, by a dreadful Apparition that hung over them in the Air, which put them into that Dread and Consternation that they were easily overthrown; which terrible Sight the Chronicle relates left such an Impression upon the Minds of some of the Souldiery, that though they escaped with their Lives in the Action, yet after the Defeat they ran distracted. Some Accounts magnify the Loss sustained by the King of *Ireland*, and express that seven thousand of his Men were kill'd upon the Spot. The Misfortune of the royal Army we are inform'd was owing to a sacrilegious Act committed as he was advancing to fight the King of *Leinster*; for it is said that in his March some of his Forces broke into a Church call'd *Cillin*, and carried away all the Holy Vessels, and violently drove away a Cow that belong'd to a Hermit of that Place. This Injustice was so resented by the pious old Man, that he laid dreadful Imprecations upon the King, and applied to Heaven for exemplary Vengeance upon his Army, and the Prayers of that Holy Person prevailed and occasioned the Loss of the Battel, wherein *Feargall*, King of *Ireland*, and his sacrilegious Forces lost their Lives.



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A. D. 719.

*Fogartach* was the Successor to this unfortunate Prince ; He was the Son of *Neill*, Son of *Cearmuigh Sotnill*, Son of *Diarmuid*; Son of *Hugh*, otherwise call'd *Aodh Slaine*, of the royal Line of *Heremon*, and reign'd Monarch of the Island one Year. He lost his Life by *Cionaoibh* the Son of *Jargallach*, in the Battel of *Beilge*.

A. D. 720.

*Cionaoibh* fix'd himself in the Sovereignty ; He was the Son of *Jargallach*, Son of *Conuing Charraig*, Son of *Congaille*, Son of *Aodha Slaine*, derived from the princely Stock of *Heremon*, and administer'd the Government four Years. In the Reign of this Prince the Relicks of the pious *Adomnán*, were remov'd from *Scotland* into *Ireland*. The bloody Engagement of *Drom Curran*, was fought soon afterwards by *Flaithbheartach*, the Son of *Loingseach*, with *Cionaoibh* King of *Ireland*, in which Action the royal Army receiv'd a general Defeat, and the King himself was found dead upon the Field of Battel.

A. D. 724.

*Flaithbheartach* succeeded in the Throne ; He was the Son of *Loingseach*, Son of *Aongus*, Son of *Daniel*, Son of *Hugh*, Son of *Ainmereach*, a Descendant from the royal Race of *Heremon*, and enjoy'd the Crown seven Years ; The Mother of this Prince was *Muirion* the Daughter of *Ceallach*. The venerable *Bede* in his *English History* relates that the dreadful Battel of *Drom Dearg* was fought in *Scotland* in the Reign of this *Irish* Monarch, between *Druist* and *Aongus* two Brothers, and Sons of *Aongus* King of the *Picts*. The Succession to the Kingdom of *Scotland* was determin'd in this Engagement, where *Druist* and the Army that asserted his Right was subdued and himself slain. The Battel of *Murbuilg* was fought soon afterwards in the same Kingdom, between the noble Tribe of the *Dailriadas* and the *Picts*, where the *Picts* were defeated with great Slaughter and drove out of the Field. About the same Time was fought the Battel of *Fotharta*, in *Muirtheimbne*, between the Forces of *Aodha Allain*, and the noble *Clanna Neill*, and the Inhabitants of *Ulster*, in which sharp Engagement *Aodha Roim*, who had been King of that Province for thirty Years, and *Concha* Son of *Cuanach*, King of *Cobha*, were unfortunately slain. Not long after this Action *Loingseach* the Monarch of *Ireland* died a natural Death at *Ardmach*.

eat idin X-  
oda ollainn  
elana Neil.

*Aodha* or *Hugh Ollan* got Possession of the Sovereignty; he was the Son of *Feargaile*, Son of *Maolduin*, Son of *Maolfuigh*, Son of *Aodha Uairiodhnach*, descended from the royal Family of *Heremon*, and governed the Kingdom nine Years. The Mother of this *Irish* Prince was *Bridget*, the Daughter of *Orcha*, Son of *Carrthor*. In his Reign the Provinces of *Munster* and *Leinster* fought the bloody Battel of *Beallach Feile*, where there was a dreadful Slaughter on both Sides, and in the Conflict perished *Ceallach*, the Son of *Faobhuir*, King of *Offery*. In this Dispute the Victory was doubtful for some Time, but at last the Fortune of the Day fell to *Cathall*, the Son of *Fionguine*, King of *Munster*.

In the Government of this King, *Aongus*, the Son of *Feargus*, King of the *Picts*, raised a considerable Army, and invaded the Territories of the Tribe of the *Dail-riada* in the Kingdom of *Scotland*, and committed terrible Devastations, having entred the Country with Fire and Sword. Among other Acts of Hostilities, he plundered without Mercy and Distinction *Dun Greidhe*, and then set the Place on Fire, and levell'd it with the Ground. This *Pictish* King was follow'd with Victory in this Attempt, his Arms and Cruelties were a Terror to the Inhabitants, and among his Successes, the Fortune of War deliver'd into his Hands *Dongall* and *Feargus*, the Sons of *Sealbhaigh*, who was at that Time King of the *Dailriada*, whom he made Prisoners, and confined closely under a strong Guard.

About the same Time there was an Interview between *Hugh Allan*, King of *Ireland*, and *Cathall*, the Son of *Fionguine*, King of *Munster*, at a Place called *Tir-da-Glas* in the County of *Ormond*, where among other Debates it was consulted what Methods should be used to advance the yearly Revenue of *St. Patrick* throughout the Kingdom, and they established a particular Law for that Purpose. The Battel of *Athseanuigh* was soon afterwards fought between *Hugh Allan*, King of *Ireland*, and *Hugh*, the Son of *Colgain*, King of *Leinster*. This Engagement was fought with desperate Courage on both Sides, and many Persons of Distinction lost their Lives. The King of *Ireland* received a dangerous Wound, and *Hugh*, Son of the King of *Leinster* was slain: The Provincial Troops fought with great Bravery, the principal Nobility of the Province perished in the Action; and it is said, that nine thousand of the Forces of *Leinster* remained

dead upon the Field of Battel. The Army of the Kingdom of *Ireland* suffered great Difficulties and Loss of Men; and among the Commanders, *Hugh*, the Son of *Mortough*, a brave and experienced Soldier, who shared the Sovereignty of the Island with *Hugh*, was wounded mortally, and did not survive the Action of the Day. The Reign of this Prince was distinguished by the Death of these eminent Persons; *Flann*, the Son of *Cronmaol*, the pious and charitable Bishop of *Rotheruine*, *Caball*, the Son of *Fionngwine*, who governed the Province of *Munster*, and the martial Prince *Hugh Balve*, the Son of *Ionrachta*, who had been King of *Conacht* seven Years. *Hugh Allan*, King of *Ireland*, fell under the victorious Sword of *Daniel*, the Son of *Morrrough*, in the noted Battel of *Seiridhmidh*, known otherwise by the Name of the Battel of *Ceananus*.

- A. D. 740. *Daniel* succeeded to the Crown of *Ireland*; he was the Son of *Morrrough*, Son of *Diarmuid*, Son of *Airmeadhach Caoch*, Son of *Conall Guthbbhin*, Son of *Suibhne*, Son of *Colman*, Son of *Diarmuid*, Son of *Feargus Ceirbeoil*, Son of *Conull Creamhbhine*, Son of *Niall*, the martial Hero of the nine Hostages, a lineal Descendant from the renowned Line of *Heremon*, and was Monarch of the Island two and forty Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Aislin*, the Daughter of *Congall of Dealbhna More*. In the Reign of this Irish King, *Colman*, the Bishop of *Laosan*, was killed by the Hands of *O Durraire*, and *Cormac*, the Bishop of *Atk Trim*, left the present Life for a better. About this Time, as the Chronicle relates, a Prodigy was observed; for the Appearance of a monstrous Serpent was seen moving in the Air: This Apparition was followed by the Death of *Seachnufach*, the Son of *Colgan*, King of *Cinsalach*, and soon afterwards *Cathasach*, the Son of *Oiliolla*, King of the *Picts*, was killed at *Rath Beathach*, by the Inhabitants of the Province of *Leinster*. Under the Government of *Daniel* two eminent Prelates, whose Names were *Suarleach*, Bishop of *Fabhair*, and *Osbran*, the Bishop of *Cluain Creamha*, were translated into another Life. The memorable Battel of *Beallach Cro* was fought about this Time by *Criomthban*, the Son of *Eana*, in which Engagement *Fionn*, the Son of *Airb*, King of *Dealbhna*, was slain, and great Numbers of his Army followed him into another World. This terrible Fight hapned at a Place called *Tiobraid Fionn*; and from the dreadful Slaughter

Slaughter and Bloodshed of that Action, the adjoining Lake that is near the Place has been ever since distinguished by the Name of *Loch Bealling Cro*; for the Word *Cro* in the *Irish* Language, signifies *Blood* in the *English*; and the Spring that gives Rise to that Lake is called *Tobur From*. In the same Reign died these remarkably great Men, *Comusgach*, the King of *O Faly*, was killed by the Hands of *Maolduin*, the Son of *Hugh Beanain*, King of *Munster*; *Aongus*, the King of *Scotland*, resigned his Crown and his Life. About the same Time was fought the Battel of *Beallach Gabhrab* by *Macconceara* and the Inhabitants of *Offery*, who with their joint Forces engaged *Dungall*, the Son of *Laidbgin*, Son of *O Cinnsealach*, in which Action *Dungall* with the principal Gentry of *Leinster* lost their Lives; and soon afterwards died *Mortough*, the Son of *Murchadh*, King of *Leinster*, and after a long Reign followed *Daniel*, the Son of *Morrrough*, King of *Ireland*. This Prince descended from *Clan Colman*, and died, it is supposed, naturally and without Violence.

*Niall Freasach* was the next Successor; he was the <sup>A D. 781.</sup> Son of *Feargall*, Son of *Maolduin*, Son of *Maol Fithreach*, Son of *Aodh Uairriodhnath*, derived from the royal Posterity of *Heremon*; he enjoy'd the Crown four Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Aithiochra*, the Daughter of *Cein O Connor*, King of *Cianachta*. The Reason why he was distinguished by the Name of *Niall Frasach* was because there fell three preternatural Showers <sup>τρίετα  
εἰς μέλα  
εἰς πόλιν  
εἰς ὕψος  
ἀγρο.</sup> in the Kingdom of *Ireland* the Time he was born; a Shower of *Honey*, a Shower of *Silver*, and a Shower of *Blood*; for the Word *Fras* in the *Irish* Language, signifies a *Shower* in the *English*. Under the Government of this Prince died *Dubbionrachtach*, the Son of *Caball*, Son of *Muireadbach Muilleathan*, after he had governed the Province of *Conacht* five Years. The Reign of this *Irish* King was afflicted with many dreadful Calamities; for many terrible Earthquakes hapned in several Parts of the Island, and a most miserable Famine raged throughout the Kingdom, and destroyed Multitudes of People. *Dungall*, the Son of *Ceallach*, King of *Offery*, died about this Time, likewise *Cronmaol*, the pious Bishop of *Cill More*, and *Ailpin*, King of the *Picts*, and *Colgnait*, the charitable Bishop of *Ardbreacan*, who were removed into another World. The Battel of *Acha Liag* was fought in the Reign of *Niall*, between  
Jobb

*Jobb Bruin* and *Jobb Maine*; the Action was sharp and concluded with great Slaughter on both Sides. Soon after this Engagement *Artgoile* the Son of *Cathal*, undertook a Pilgrimage and went to *Aoi Collum Cill*, in the Dominions of *Scotland*; about the same Time, *Feargus* the Bishop of *Damhliag* was translated into a better State, and the Bloody Engagement of *Corann* was fought between *Cineall Conuill* and *Siol Eogain*, in which Action *Hugh Allain*, the King of *Fochla* came off with complete Victory, and *Daniel* the Son of *Hugh Mundeirg*, was defeated with exceeding Loss, and a general Rout of his whole Army. *Niall Frasach* the King of *Ireland* did not long survive this Fight, but died in *Aoi Collum Cill*, in the Kingdom of *Scotland*.

A. D. 786. *Donchadha* obtain'd the Government; He was the Son of *Daniel*, Son of *Murchadha*, Son of *Diarmuid*, Son of *Airmeadh Coach*, Son of *Conull Gutbbhin*, Son of *Suibhne*, Son of *Colman More*, Son of *Diarmuid*, Son of *Feargus Ceirbheoil*, Son of *Conull Creamhthoine*, Son of *Niall*, the celebrated Hero of the *nine Hostages*, descended from the royal Stock of *Heremon*, and enjoy'd the Sovereignty seven and twenty Years; He escaped the Sword by which most of his Predecessors fell, and died in his Bed in his own royal Palace.

A. D. 815. *Hugh*, who was otherwise call'd *Aodha Dorndighe*, succeeded in the Throne of *Ireland*; He was the Son of *Niall Frasach*, and derived from the illustrious Line of *Heremon*, and was Monarch of the Island four and twenty Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Dunflaith* the Daughter of *Flaithbheartach*, Son of *Loingseach*, King of *Cineall Conuill*; and he was distinguish'd by the Appellation of *Aodha Dorndighe* or *Oirndighe*, because when he was weaned from the Breast of his Nurse, he used himself to that unbecoming Practice of *Sucking* his Fingers, for the Words *Aodha Dorndighe* in the *Irish* Language, signifie in the *English* *Hugh the Fist* or *Finger Sucker*. The Reign of this Prince was signally remarkable for the Invasion of the *Danes*, who were hitherto Strangers to the Island, and landed in a hostile Manner in the West of *Munster* with a numerous Army transported in fifty Sail. *Airtre*, a Descendant from the Race of *Heber Fionn*, govern'd the Province of *Munster* at that Time; and upon the first Notice of the Attempt, he march'd with a strong Body of his provincial Troops, and resolv'd to repell the Invaders. A most desperate and bloody

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bloody Action followed where the *Danes* lost the Victory, and in Confusion fled and retired to their Shipping, and left four hundred and sixteen of their Countrymen dead upon the Spot. The Darkness of the Night favour'd their Retreat, and hinder'd the Pursuit, which otherwise would have been attended with a much greater Slaughter. After this Trial of the *Irish* Courage the *Danes* gave over the Attempt for that Time, and were obliged to return into their own Country.

Six Years after this Expulsion of the *Danes*, when *Feidlin*, the Son of *Criomthán*, was King of *Munster*, another Fleet set Sail from *Norway* and landed upon the Coasts of that Province, where they plunder'd and ravag'd with the utmost Barbarity, and reduc'd the Inhabitants to great Extremities; but an Army was rais'd with all possible Expedition, to oppose the dreadful Progress of the Invaders; the Provincial Troops gave them Battel, the *Irish* Bravery prevail'd, and the *Danes* were repuls'd with great Slaughter, and obliged to quit the Island. In the seventeenth Year of the Reign of this Monarch that bloody Tyrant *Turgesius* made an Attempt upon *Ireland*, at which Time *Olchabhair* the Son of *Cionnsbaioibh*, Son of *Congall*, Son of *Maolduin*, Son of *Hugh Beanain*, was King over the Province of *Munster*; This Account is confirm'd by the Authority of some *Irish* Chronicles, though the *Polychronicon* speaking of the Affairs of *Ireland* expressly asserts, that the *Danes* made their first Invasion upon the Island when *Fiedhlime*, the Son of *Criomthán*, was the King of *Munster*. His Expression upon this Subject it may not be improper to transcribe. *Ab adventu Sancti Patricii usque ad Feldimidii Regis tempora, triginta Reges per quadringentos annos in Hibernia regnaverunt, tempore autem Feldmidii, Norvegesenses Duce Turgesio, terram hanc occuparunt. From the coming of St. Patrick down to the Time of Feidhlime, thirty three Kings reigned in Ireland for the Space of four hundred Years, but in the Time of Feidhlime the Norwegians, under the Conduct of Turgesius, got Possession of the Country.* There are other Authors which say, that the *Danes* made their first Attempt upon the Kingdom of *Ireland*, at the Time when *Artry* the Son of *Coball* was King of *Munster*, and this is affirm'd with great Truth; but it must be observ'd they were not able to obtain footing in the Country, but were oblig'd to desist and return with Loss, after they

had plunder'd the People, and done incredible Damage wherever they came. The Writer of the *Polychronicon* likewise is to be credited in what he asserts, for he observes that *Feidblime* was King of *Munster* when that cruel Tyrant *Turgesius*, with his Followers, landed upon the Coasts, and with dreadful Hostilities harass'd the Inhabitants, who were miserably pillaged and enslaved under the Oppression of these barbarous Foreigners. Neither are we to reject the Testimony of those Writers, who affirm that the *Danes* landed in the Country when *Olchobhair*, was in Possession of the Throne of *Munster*; for those Foreigners, who made an Attempt upon the Island at that Time, were Natives of the Kingdom of *Dania* of *Denmark*, and these People are call'd in the old *Irish* Records by the Name of *Dubhgeinte* or *Dubh Lochlannuig*; the *Norwegians*, who came originally from *Norway*, are stiled in the Chronicles *Finngeinte* or *Fionn Lochlannaig*. It is to be observ'd in this Place that the Word *Lochlannach*, does not signifie in the *Irish* Language any particular Tribe or Nation, but it implies *Strong* or *Powerful* at Sea, for the Word *Lom* signifies *Strong* in the *English*, and *Loch* is the *Irish* Word for the Sea; for the People of *Norway* and *Denmark* were skilful in Navigation and expert Seamen, and by their Shipping transported powerful Armies into *Ireland*, when they attempted to make a Conquest of the Country. The particular Exploits and Invasions of these Foreigners will be related at large in the following Part of this History, extracted from that valuable Record known in the *Irish* Language by the Name of *Cogadh Gall ra Gaoidhealuibh*, or an Account of the Wars of the *Gauls* against the *Irish*.

In the Reign of *Hugh Oirndighe* King of *Ireland*, and *Artry* the Son of *Coball*, King of *Munster*, the *Gauls* made an Attempt upon the Island, and landed at *Caomb Inis Obbraibhadh*, with a Sail of sixty Ships: These Transports brought over a numerous Body of Troops, who upon their Arrival plunder'd the Coasts with dreadful Cruelty, and then set the Country on Fire. In their Fury *Inis Labhraine*, after it had been pillaged, was consumed, and *Danimis* suffer'd the same Calamity, and was burnt to the Ground. The Inhabitants of *Eoganacht* and of *Loch Leim* resolv'd to repel the Invaders, and raising what Forces they were able, they resolutely gave them Battel; the Action was short but violent, and the Natives

tuí dani  
dubhgeinte  
na dubloe-  
lanuig.

tuí na ho-  
ruegid fiú-  
ginte no fi-  
onloch la-  
nuig 57ae.

Natives obtained a complete Victory, and four hundred and sixteen of the *Gauls* were slain. This Defeat so discouraged the Foreigners, that they retired with great Precipitancy to their Ships, they weighed Anchor, and made homewards with all their Sail.

But the Kingdom of *Ireland* was so preferable in its Wealth and Fertility to the barren Country of *Norway*,<sup>eoiblach lo-chlann an-fo do ceaf aneipin.</sup> that those *Northern* People soon prepared for another Descent upon the Island; and in the second Year of the Reign of *Feidhlim*, King of *Munster*, they landed and practised their usual Barbarities upon the Natives. Among other Ravages they burnt *Inis Eibhin*, *Beannchuir*, *Cluain Umbadh*, *Ros Maoiladh*, and *Sgeilg Michael*. Another Fleet of these Foreigners arrived about the same Time, and landed in the East Part of the Island: They carried with them the utmost Miseries of Fire and Sword, they plunder'd *Beannchuir* in the Province of *Munster*, and killed the Bishop and the Religious of that Place, and added Sacrilege to their Cruelty by breaking open the rich Shrine of *Combgoll*. These Invaders were reinforc'd with another Sail of *Norwegians*, who hearing of the Success of their Countrymen, resolved to try their Fortune, and landed at *Jobh Cinnsealach*. Their Arrival struck fresh Terror into the Inhabitants, who fled for the Security of their Lives, and left the Country to the Mercy of the Invaders. In this Attempt were plunder'd *Teach Munna*, *Teach Moling* and *Inis Tiog*: The Hopes of Booty encouraged them to proceed in their Hostilities, and they came to *Offery*, and began to spoil and pillage without Opposition; but the People of that Country rose upon them, and with great Bravery attack'd the Foreigners, who were unprepared for an Assault, and were intent upon carrying off their Booty, and after a desperate and bloody Conflict gave them an intire Defeat, and slew seven hundred and seven of them upon the Spot. But the *Danes* nothing dispirited by this Misfortune, distressed the Country, and practised their usual Devastations; they plundered *Dundeargmuidhe*, *Inis Eogan*, *Diosfort Tiobruid*, and *Lismore*; and after they had ransacked, they burnt to the Ground *Cillmolaissy*, *Glindaloch*, *Cluainard*, *Mobeodhg*, *Suirn Collum Gill*, *Daimbliag Ciaran*, *Slaine*, *Cealla Saile*, and *Cluain Uadhrne Mungairid*; the Churches felt the common Calamity, and after they had been stript of their Ornaments and sacred Vessels, they were set on Fire, and

most of the Monasteries and religious Houses in the Kingdom were consumed by these savage and wicked Invaders without Remorse or Distinction.

toinglor  
toehlanah  
go cuan  
lunnig.

Another Fleet of these Free-Booters followed the former, and landed in the Harbour of *Limerick*. The Coasts were immediately plunder'd with military Execution, and *Corcabaisginn Tradruighe* and *Jobb Conuill Gabbra* were set on Fire and consumed to Ashes. But the *Danes* were not suffered to carry off their Prey without Opposition; for *Jobb Conuill* with a stout Body of native *Irish* gave them Battel at *Seanmuid*, and putting them to the Rout with considerable Slaughter, recovered the Spoil out of their Hands. But the most dreadful Attempt upon the Island was by the cruel Tyrant *Turgesius*, supported by a Number of his Countrymen, and a great Fleet of Ships, who, with great Terror to the Inhabitants, landed upon the Northern Coasts of *Ireland*. The Historians of this Time differ in their Account of this *Turgesius*, some asserting that he was the King of *Norway*, others that he was the King's Son; but of whatever Quality he was, it is certain that he was a Man of great personal Courage, but of a savage and inhuman Disposition. The *Danes* whom he found in the Kingdom received him with universal Joy and loud Acclamations, and being before divided into several Bodies under many Commanders, they united under him, and with one Consent chose him for their General. Under the Conduct of this Leader they renewed their Hostilities, and proceeded in their Ravages with that Success, that they soon overran and spoiled that Half of the Kingdom called by the Name of *Leath Cuinn*, and determined to conquer the whole Island; he fortified himself in the Possession of what he had got, and dispatched a considerable Part of his Army to seize upon the Northern Half of the Country called for Distinction *Leath Cuinn*. He divided his Fleet likewise, and setting a sufficient Number of his Men on board, he sent some of his Ships to *Loch Meachach*, others had Orders to sail to *Lughmiagh*, and others were commanded to *Loch Ribh*, with positive Commissions to ravage with Fire and Sword, to spare neither Age nor Sex, but by their Cruelties and Terror of their Arms to dispirit the People, and fix themselves without Fear of being dispossessed. And these IncurSIONS were successfully executed; and among other Instances

of Barbarity, *Ardmach* was miserably plunder'd three Times within the Space of a Month, and *Turgesius*, without any Regard to his Character, seized upon the Abbot of *Ardmach*, and made him his Prisoner. The *Irish* Apostle St. *Collum Cill*, foretold the Captivity of this Abbot, as it is recorded in the following Lines.

*The most religious Abbot of Ardmach,  
Shall by the Force of the Norwegian Arms  
Be seized, and made a Prisoner of War.*

There were many of the Clergy, of several Orders within the Kingdom of *Ireland*, who by a prophetick Spirit foresaw the sore Calamities that were coming upon their Country, long before they happen'd; for the Inhabitants were become very profligate and corrupt in their Manners, and a Torrent of Vice and Prophaneness had overspread the Nation, but prevail'd chiefly among the Nobility and Gentry, whose Pride, Injustice and Ambition, deserv'd the severest Inflictions from the Hand of Providence; so that the cruel *Danes* were used as Instruments by divine Vengeance, to scourge and correct a wicked and debauch'd Nobility, and an immoral and licentious Populace; It was therefore predicted by some of the Ecclesiasticks of the Kingdom, that the Sins of the Inhabitants would be punish'd by very terrible Visitations, which should overrun the Land in the Reign of *Aodha Dorndighe*, King of *Ireland*, and *Artry* the Son of *Caball* King of *Munster*.

The Province of *Munster*, it has been before observ'd, was under the Government of *Feidhlim*, Son of *Criomthán*, when *Turgesius* the cruel *Dane* invaded the Island and spoil'd the Country; and among other Ravages he plunder'd the Churches and Monasteries, sacrilegiously seized upon the Ecclesiastical Revenues, and expell'd the Primate of *Ardmach* and his College of Clergy out of their Benefices, and fixed himself in Possession of that Church and the Estates belonging, which he kept till he was taken by *Maolseachluin*, and afterwards drowned by him in *Loch Annlinn*, as will be particularly related in its proper Place. In the Reign of *Hugh Dorndighe* *Inis Patrick* suffer'd in the common Calamity, and was plunder'd by the merciless *Danes*, who by the Benefit of their Shipping spoil'd most of the Islands between *Ireland* and *Scotland*, and return'd loaden with Booty.





About this Time the Revenue of *St Patrick*, was establish'd upon the Province of *Conacht*, by the Authority of *Gormgall* the Son of *Diondathaigh*, and soon after *Hugh Dorndighe* divided the Country of *Meath* between the two Sons of *Donogh*, Son of *Daniel*; the Names of these Brothers were *Connor* and *Oilioll*; The Monastery of *Aoi Collum Cill*, about this Time, fell a Sacrifice to the Cruelty of the savage *Danes*, who had made an Invasion upon *Scotland*, and their Countrymen, inspir'd with the same Barbarity, were not behind in their Executions upon the *Irish* Natives.

The Kingdom of *Ireland*, notwithstanding the Oppressions of these victorious Foreigners, was rent in sunder by civil Discord; for the King and petty Princes of the Country, instead of opposing the common Enemy with their united Strength, quarrell'd among themselves, and lay themselves open with great Disadvantage to the Invaders. *Hugh Dorndighe* the Monarch of the Kingdom was provok'd by the People of *Leinster*, and entering the Province in a hostile Manner, he slew the Inhabitants that fell in his Way; and within the Space of a Month, he plunder'd and reduc'd the Country to the last Extremities. About a Year after these Calamities, in the later end of the Month of *March*, there were such terrible Shocks of Thunder, and the Lightning did such Execution, that one thousand and ten Persons, Men and Women, were destroyed by it, between *Corcabaisginn* and the Sea side; at the same Time the Sea broke through its Banks in a violent and dreadful Manner, and overflow'd a Tract of Land that would every Year afford sufficient Pasture for twelve Head of Cattel; it was added to the Channel and could never be recover'd. The Tempest raged with exceeding Terror, and the Current of the Waters was so violent, that the Island, call'd *Inis Fidhe*, was forc'd asunder, and divided into three Parts.

bar an 10-  
mad daoine  
le coinnice  
7c.

*Hugh Dorndighe*, King of *Ireland*, in his Expedition against the People of *Leinster*, pierc'd as far with his Army into the Province as *Dun Cuair*; and having subdued the Country as he went; he divided it in equal Parts between *Muireadbach* the Son of *Ruarach*, and *Muireadbach* the Son of *Bruin*. Some Time after this Division *Muireadhaig* was set on Fire, and consumed by the *Danes*, after it had been plunder'd; and these Ravagers, embolden'd by Success, made Incursions upon the People

of

of *Umbaill*, overran the Country, and carried off the Spoil. In the Reign of this *Irish* Monarch died the venerable *Eochaidh*, Bishop of *Tamblachta*, and likewise *Eiderfgeoil*, the Son of *Ceallaig*, the pious Prelate of *Glindaloch*; and *Siadbail*, the good Bishop of *Roscommon*, did not long survive the Miseries of his Country, but was translated to a better Life. *Hugh Dorndighe*, after a troublesome Reign, was killed at *Moigh Conuille* by the Sword of *Muolcanaigh* in the Battel of *Dafearta*.

*Conchabhar*, otherwise called *Connor*, sat next upon the Throne; he was the Son of *Donough*, the Son of *Daniel*, Son of *Murchadha*, Son of *Diarmuid*, Son of *Armeadhach Caoch*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and was possess'd of the Sovereignty fourteen Years. In the Reign of this *Irish* Prince the most exemplary *Cionfhaola*, Bishop of *Atbrym*, left the World; *Eochaidh O Tuathail*, the Bishop of *Luigh Moigh*, soon followed into another Life. The Reign of this King was miserably harassed by the *Danes*, who began to settle in the Island, and among other Devastations *Inis Damhly* and *Cork* were plunder'd and burnt.

About this Time the Revenue of *St. Patrick* was established upon the Province of *Munster* by *Feidblim*, the Son of *Criomthian*, and *Artry*, the Son of *Connor*, who enjoined the same Tax upon the Province of *Conacht*. *Beannchuir* and *Dundaleath Glas* were attacked and plundered by the *Danes*, and not content to set Fire on *Moigh Bille*, they inclosed the Hermits that belonged to the Place, and consumed them to Ashes. *Mortough*, the Son of *Eogan*, was King of *Ulster* at this Time, and *Connor*, the King of *Ireland*, attempted to chastise the *Gailiongach's*, who had provoked him by their Insolence; and for that Purpose, he raised a gallant Army, marched against them, and offered them Battel. They accepted the Challenge, and engaged in the Plain of *Tailion*, where the King's Troops slew Multitudes of the Enemy, and won the Day. The Inhabitants of *Leinster* resolved to oppose the Progress of the *Danes* with all the Forces of the Province, they met the Army of the Foreigners at *Druim Conla*, and a bloody Action followed: Fortune remained doubtful, and for some Time was in Suspence between both Parties; but at last the provincial Troops gave Way and fled, which occasioned a terrible Slaughter in the Pursuit, and among the slain fell the valiant *Conuing*, Son of *Conchoingolt*, the

the Chief of the Tribe of the *Foruath*; and turn'd the Success of the Day. Soon after this Defeat *Admach* was plundered with great Barbarity by the victorious *Danes*, who in the Month following spoiled with their accustomed Cruelty *Lughnagh*, *Finne Cianachtra*, and *Lismore*, with all the Churches and religious Houses that fell in their Way, which they violently broke into, kill'd or expell'd the Members; and seized upon the consecrated Vessels and whatever they found, as lawful Booty. Before these Ravages of the *Danes*, there were four flourishing Universities of principal Note in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, one at *Ardmach*, which was filled with seven thousand Students, as appears expressly by an old Roll discovered lately in the Library of *Oxford*; the University of *Dunda Leath Glas*; the University of *Lismore*, and the University of *Cashel*, with many Academies and Colleges of smaller Account; but they felt the destroying Sword of these Barbarians, who had no Regard for Learning or learned Men; nothing sacred or civil escaped their Rage; but they swept all they could lay hold of with a cruel and undistinguishing Fury. *Connor*, the Son of *Donogh*, King of *Ireland*, unable to bear or redress the Misfortunes of his Country, it is supposed, died of Grief.

A. D. 851. *Niall Caille* was the succeeding Monarch; he was the Son of *Hugh Dorndighe*, Son of *Niall Frasach*, a Descendent from the Posterity of *Heremon*, and he ruled the Island fifteen Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Meidbbb*, the Daughter of *Jonrachtach*, Son of *Muireadbach*, King of *Durlus*; and he was particularly known by the Name of *Niall Caille* for this Reason. Upon a Time he came attended with a great Retinue of Horse to the Bank of the River *Callain*, with a Design to ford the Stream, but it hapned that the River was swoln to a great Height by the Violence of the Rains, which occasioned him to halt, and sound the Depth before he attempted to enter the Water. For this Purpose he commanded a Gentleman who rode in his Train to try the Ford, who before he had gone far was carried down by the Current, and washed off his Horse. The King, willing to preserve him, gave Orders for those about him, who had the ablest Horses, to plunge into the Water, and lay hold of the Gentleman; but they were all afraid, and astonished at the Fury and rapid Course of the River, they refused to venture

an fad fa  
ngointe n-  
all caille  
don nioe  
to.

venture, which made the King concern'd for the Misfortune of the Guide, who by this Time was almost drown'd, resolve to hazard his own Person, and, if possible, to save his Life. With this Design he advanc'd to the very Brink of the Water, and preparing to jump in, the Ground undermined by the Stream broke under his Horse's Feet, and the Current being exceeding Violent, roll'd Man and Horse headlong, and the King perish'd in the Attempt. This unfortunate Prince had some Warning to avoid the River of *Callain*, for it was predicted some Time before, that he should be drowned in that Stream, which was the sad Occasion of his Name, and he was always mention'd afterwards by the Name of *Niall Caille*. In the Reign of this Prince died *Diarmuid*, the Son of *Tumaltach*, who govern'd the Province of *Conacht*; the *Danes* still continued spoiling the Country, they plunder'd *Loch Bricirne* and kill'd *Congallach*, the Son of *Neachbach*.

*Niall*, whose Life we are writing, invaded the Province of *Leinster* at the Head of a numerous Army, designing by this Expedition to place upon the Throne of that Country, a Prince whose Name was *Bryen*, the Son of *Faolan*. The cruel *Danes* carried on their Depredations in a very dreadful Manner; They plunder'd *Fearna Maoidog*, *Mungairid*, and *Jolar Ceall*, in the County of *Ormand*; The Churches and Monasteries were rifled and demolish'd, the Religious expell'd with unheard of Violence, and in their sacrilegious Fury the magnificent Church of *Kildare* was wholly destroyed.

The Success of the *Danish* Invasion, promoted by the most savage Barbarities, that spared neither Sex nor Age, encouraged the *Normans* to try their Fortune; who having fitted out a Number of Transports, set Sail from their own Country, and arrived in the Mouth of the *Boyne*, and another Fleet of forty Sail came into the Mouth of the River *Liffy*. These Invaders, if possible, exceeded the bloody *Norwegians*, in their Hostilities and military Executions; they pillaged the Coasts, and devoured what the *Danish* Locusts had left: They carried with them the Terror of Fire and Sword in their Incurfions; they plunder'd *Magh Liffy* the County of *Dublin*, *Magh Breag* and *Fingall*. The Progress of these Foreigners alarm'd the *Danes*, who fearing the *Normans* would deprive them of their Conquests, and drive them

out of the Kingdom, either by their own Power or by joining with the Natives, collected their scatter'd Forces that were divided into several Bodies, for the Convenience of Plunder, came to *Jobb Neill*, and offer'd Bat-  
 tel to the *Normans*. The Fight began briskly and a dreadful Slaughterer follow'd on both Sides, but the Victory inclined to the *Danes*, who after a terrible Impres-  
 sion upon the Enemy turn'd the Fortune of the Day, and pursued them from *Inbber Nambark*, where the Bat-  
 tel was fought, along the Banks of the *Shannon* to the Sea side. This Success animated the *Danes*, who find-  
 ing the Country open and unguarded, renew'd their Ho-  
 stilities, and ransack'd and burnt *Inis Cealtrach Cluain Mac Nois*, and all the Churches of *Loch Eirne* were consumed to Ashes.

ead tola-  
 nat, 7 Job  
 Neill anyo.

In the Time of these publick Calamities, *Feidblime*, the Son of *Criomthian*, govern'd the Province of *Munster*, and having enter'd into Holy Orders, presided in the Archiepiscopal Chair of *Leath Modha*, as the South half of *Ireland* was generally call'd. This Prince received Provocations from the Northern half of the Island, known by the Name of *Leath Cuin*, and carrying his Arms into that Part of the Country, he sorely distress'd the Inhabitants, and plunder'd without Distinction from *Birr* to *Teambhair Breag*. But he met with Opposition at *Tara*, which he overcame with some Difficulty; and in a Conflict, wherein his Forces engaged *Jonrachtach*, the Son of *Maolduin* lost his Life. This Ecclesiastical Prince did not long survive to enjoy the Benefit of his Victories, being cut off by Death after he had fill'd the Throne of *Munster* for seven and twenty Years. There is a valuable Treatise extant which gives a great Character of this *Feidblime*, the Son of *Criomthian*, and speaking of his Decease, says, *Optimus & sapiens Anachorta Scotorum quievit; The most excellent and wise Anchoret of the Scots departed this Life.* Which is Authority sufficient to believe that this Prince was a Person of great Learning and Accomplishments, and by Reason of his Piety and the Holiness of his Life, a bright Ornament of the *Christian* Profession.

tuá nreán  
 leabá Oimí  
 á feidlime  
 mé eiríam-  
 énn anyo.

In the same Year with the Death of *Feidblime*, *Olcho-  
 bhair*, the Abbot of *Imly* a Man ambitious and fond  
 of Power, had Interest sufficient to have himself elected  
 King of *Cashel*. *Maolfeachlen* the King of *Meath* about  
 the same Time engaged the *Danes* at *Casan Linge*, and  
 gave



gave them a signal Overthrow, which concluded with the Slaughter of seven hundred of them upon the Spot. The *Danish* General, whose Name was *Saxolb*, was kill'd by *Cianachtaibb*, in an Encounter wherein the Foreigners were defeated with great Loss. The Fortune of the *Danes* began now to abate, for they were generally routed by the Natives, who struggled hard for their Liberties, and particularly destroy'd Numbers of them in the Battel of *Eafrnadh*; but after this bad Success, the Invaders recover'd their Strength, and with the choicest of their Forces laying Siege to the City of *Dublin*, took it Sword in Hand. The famous *Cormac Mac Cuillenán*, (who was Archbishop of *Cashel* and govern'd the Province of *Munster* for seven Years) was born about this Time; soon after the pious Bishop of *Teilge*, whose Name was *Exnich*, was unfortunately kill'd. The Inhabitants of *Conacht* attempted to oppose the Incursions of the *Danes*, and gave them Battle, but with ill Success; for the Provincial Troops were cut off in great Numbers, and *Maolduin* the Son of *Muirguisa* was Slain. Near this Time died *Bryan* the Son of *Faolan*, King of *Leix*.

The *Danes* were continually reinforc'd with fresh Recruits from their own Country, and a Fleet of many Sail, with a Body of Troops on Board, arriv'd upon the Coasts, and landed at *Loch Neachach*. They committed their usual Hostilities, and plunder'd the Country in an inhuman Manner; they broke through the Law of Nations, and contrary to the Practice of declared Enemies, they rag'd with all the Terror and Calamities of Fire and Sword. The Churches in the Northern Part of the Island fell a Prey to these Barbarians, who had no regard to Religion and the Christian Worship, but with a savage Brutality they destroyed every thing civil and sacred; and among other Acts of Violence, *Fearna* and *Corke* were spoiled and pillaged, and then set on Fire and consumed to Ashes.

*Niall Caille*, King of *Ireland*, about this Time, at the Head of a numerous Army, plunder'd and destroy'd *Fearceall* and *Deabhna Eathra*; and soon after *Morrough* the Son of *Hugh*, King of *Conacht*, left the World; the celebrated Bishop of *Cluain Heois* follow'd, and was deliver'd from a troublesome Life. The *Danes* encourag'd by their Success, and to secure what they had conquer'd, erected a Fort at *Linn Duacbaill*, which they fill'd with their

their choicest Troops: This Garison was a Terror to the Natives, and by their continu'd Excurfions plunder'd and destroy'd the Country call'd *Tuatha Teabhba*. They built alfo another Caſtle at *Dublin*, from whence they had an Opportunity of ruining the Province of *Leinſter* and *Johb Neill*; the Churches were levell'd with the Ground, and the Country miſerably diſtreſs'd, from the City of *Dublin* to *Sliabh Bladhma*. They ranſack'd *Chuain Aidhnach*, *Chuain Foraird*, and *Chuain Mac Nois*; the whole Land around became deſert, and was like an uninhabited Wilderneſs. About this Time *Feargus* the Son of *Fothig*, who govern'd the Province of *Conacht*, departed this Life; and the cruel *Dane Turgeſius* erected a Fort at *Loch Ribh*, which commanded the Country about, and infeſted *Chuain Mac Nois*, *Chuain Fearta Breannin*, *Tirdaglaſh*, *Lothra*, and many other adjacent Places and Cities, which were plunder'd and deſtroyed, and fell a miſerable Sacrifice to the Fury of theſe Invaders. Not long afterwards the venerable *Muireadhach*, Biſhop of *Laine Leire*, was tranſlated to a better Life; and about the ſame Time *Niall Caille*, the King of *Ireland*, engaged the *Danes* in a pitch'd Battel, and gave them a ſignal Overthrow, which was attended with the Loſs of Numbers that were left dead upon the Spot; but this Prince did not ſurvive long enough to enjoy the Fruits of his Victory, for he was unfortunately drowned in the River *Caille* in the Manner before related.

A. D. 866. *Turgeſius* the *Dane* Uſurped the Sovereignty of *Ireland*. This Foreigner was the King of *Norway*, as ſome Writers affirm, or, as others, the King's Son. His Countrymen the *Norwegians* and other Eaſterlings who ſided againſt the Natives, proclaimed him King of *Ireland*, and inveſted him with the Government of the Iſland, which he ruled thirteen Years. Before he came to the Throne he had been ſeventeen Years in the Country, plundering and deſtroying the Inhabitants with inexpressible Calamities. He was a Scourge in the Hands of divine Providence to puniſh the *Iriſh* Nation, which was reduced to the laſt Extremities, and at laſt compelled to ſubmit under the Yoke of this Uſurper. The Iſland had been for many Years haraſſed with Wars and inteſtine Diviſions as well as continual Struggles to preſerve their oppreſſed Liberties, and repel the Inſolence and cruel Hoſtilities of the Invaders. But the

Foreigners

Foreigners being constantly supported with Recruits from *Norway*, and all the Eastern Countries adjacent, poured in such Numbers upon the Natives, that they were forced to give up the Defence of their Country, and submit to the Tyranny of this Usurper, who reduced them to the lowest Servitude, imposed insufferable Taxes, and by other Acts of Cruelty and Oppression, established himself in the Government, and as it were made a Conquest of the Island. This Foreigner had no sooner seized upon the Crown, but he dispatched Messengers into *Norway*, who were commissioned to give Notice of his Accession to the Throne, and to desire a Supply of Forces sufficient to support his Pretensions against any Attempts of the Natives, who were a People jealous of their Liberties, and if they were not kept under the Terror of a standing Army, would occasion him an uneasy Reign. Accordingly a Fleet of many Sail, and a Number of Transports fill'd with regular Troops, were dispatched, and landed upon the Western Coast. The Country was immediately laid waste, the Inhabitants were forced by Drove like Sheep into Captivity, and such as escaped were obliged to retire into Woods and Wildernesses with their Families, and lie exposed to the Miseries of Famine to preserve themselves from Slavery. These Foreigners mann'd out several Boats that were ordered upon *Loch Neachach* and *Loch Ribh*, from whence they ravaged and committed Hostilities savage and terrible beyond Expression. *St. Collum Cill* many Years before the Invasion of the *Danes* foretold the Calamities that should fall upon his Country, and *Bearchan* the Prophet predicted particularly, that the *Norwegians* should arrive and bring the Country into Servitude; the Verses of this ancient Poet may be thus translated.

*The bold Norwegians, with a numerous Sail,  
Shall try the Irish Ocean, and arrive  
Upon the Coasts. The Isle shall be enslav'd  
By these victorious Foreigners, who shall place  
In every Church an Abbot of their own,  
And shall proclaim to fill the Throne of Ireland,  
A King of the Norwegian Race.*

*An ACCOUNT of the many Battels  
fought by Turgesius, &c.*

**T***urgesius* having reduced the Island under his Subjection, and by Usurpation broke in upon the Succession of the royal Line of the *Irish* Monarchs, exercised his Government with great Tyranny, and established himself upon the Ruins of the national Liberties, and made his arbitrary and unbounded Will the Rule of his Administration. The Natives were miserably gall'd with the heavy Yoke of this Foreigner, and resolving to attempt a Recovery of their Freedom, there was a Conspiracy form'd by the principal Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom to dethrone the Tyrant and expell the Foreigners, and fix the State upon its ancient Foundation. They reflected upon the Bravery of their Ancestors, how prodigal they were of their Blood in Defence of their Country, and what noble Efforts they made to secure their Rights and Privileges, and deliver them down unoppressed to their Posterity. Inspir'd with these Reflections, the Revolt became universal, and the *Irish* unanimously arm'd and assembled in Bodies over the whole Kingdom. They engaged the *Danes* in several desperate Battels, and fought with Success in many Encounters. A Spirit of Freedom and Liberty prevailed throughout the Island, and was attended with Victory, insomuch that the Foreigners began to be weary of their Conquests. They were so harassed and bore down by the old *Irish* Courage, that they were overthrown and defeated with incredible Loss, and were at last obliged to retire to their Shipping, and bid adieu to the Island.

It may not be improper in this Place to relate particularly some of the most memorable Battels that were fought between the Natives and the Invaders, and express some of the most remarkable Circumstances that attended them, in order to give Posterity a just Idea of the Courage and Bravery of the ancient *Irish*, who were a Nation fond of their Liberties and of the royal Family of their Kings, whose Throne they could not bear should be filled by Foreigners, but exposed themselves to preserve their Country, and put an End to

those Calamities that closely followed a foreign Yoke, and are the necessary Effects of Tyranny and Usurpation.

The *Irish* led on by the principal Nobility of the Country, particularly the Tribe of the *Dailgais*, engaged the *Danes*, and gave them a signal Overthrow at *Ard-breacan*. The Foreigners were again attacked by the People of *Colgaim*, and routed with the Loss of all their Forces, in which *Aetion Saxoth*, a Commander of great Courage and Experience among the *Danes*, was slain. *Olchobhair*, the Son of *Gionnshaoith*, who govern'd the Province of *Munster* and *Lorcain*, the Son of *Ceallach*, King of *Leinster*, join'd their Provincial Forces, and fell upon the Army of the Invaders with irresistible Bravery; the Dispute was hot and bloody, but the Impression of the *Irish* broke the Ranks of the Enemy, and a general Rout followed. In this Engagement the Earl of *Tomair*, who was Heir Apparent to the Crown of *Denmark*, was slain, and twelve hundred of the best Soldiers of the *Danish* Army followed him to the other World. The King of *Munster* before mentioned, and the Inhabitants of *Eoganacht Casbel*, defeated the *Danes* in a pitched Battel near *Casbel*, where five hundred of them were kill'd, and the rest fled for their Lives. The People of *Tyrconnel* armed to recover their Liberties, and attack'd the Invaders near *Easruadb*, and fought them with Success; for the choicest of their Forces perished in the Engagement, and few escaped the Slaughter of the Day. The Men of *Jobh Figimty* resolved to be no longer Slaves, and observing an Opportunity, they fell upon the *Danes*, and killed three hundred and sixty of them. Two hundred of these Foreigners were destroyed by the People of *Cianachta*, and two hundred and forty at *Druim da Chonn* were slain by *Tighernach* the King of *Loch Gabhair*. *Maolseachlin*, the King of *Meath*, attempted to shake off the Yoke, and engaged the *Danes* with that Success at a Place called *Glasgean*, that a thousand and seven hundred of them were cut off. Yet notwithstanding these Victories, the Foreigners were far from being suppressed, for they were constantly supplied with fresh Recruits from their own Country, which inspired them with Courage under the greatest Slaughter of their Troops; their broken Armies were soon completed, and the Natives were so harassed with continual Skirmishes and Attacks, that they lost their choicest



do 10mab  
lung agur  
bryne loc  
lan anyo 7e

choicest Soldiers without any Prospect of filling their Places; and therefore being dispirited and worn out, they were obliged to confess themselves a vanquished People, and submit to the cruel Tyranny of *Turgesius* and his *Danish* Soldiery, [who ruled them with a Rod of Iron, and forced them to taste of the very Dregs of Servitude. The whole Kingdom was reduced, the Usurper seiz'd upon the Crown, and by his Followers was proclaimed Monarch of *Ireland*.

*A particular ACCOUNT of the SLA-  
VERY imposed upon the ancient Irish by  
TURGESIUS the Danish Tyrant.*

do 10mab  
lung agur  
bryne loc  
lan anyo 7e

THE native *Irish* could neither bear nor shake off the oppressive Yoke of these Foreigners; and *Turgesius*, who had Possession of the Government, thought no Method more expedient to secure his new Power than to new model the State, to overturn the old Constitution, and to place his Countrymen in the Posts of Trust and Authority. Accordingly he appointed a *Danish* King in every Cantired of Land throughout the Island, and a Captain was settled in every Territory. He nominated an Abbot in every Church and Monastery, and a Sergeant of the *Danes* was fixed as the commanding Officer in every Village; and to complete the Miseries of the Natives, a Soldier was billeted by Authority upon every House and Cottage thro' the whole Kingdom. The Insolence and Rapines of these common Soldiers were insupportable; for the Master of a Family had no Power in his own House; he could not command the Use of a Hen or a Chicken of his own, for Fear of giving Offence to this rascally Foreigner, whose Vengeance he dreaded, and whose Resentment perhaps would dispossess him of all he had. If a poor Man had but one Cow to afford Milk for the Support of his Family, the Soldier quarter'd upon him would consume the whole, not regarding the Cries and Wants of the young Children, who were ready to die of Hunger; and if a Person in the House chanc'd to be sick, and the Weakness of his Stomach would admit of no other Food but Milk, this barbarous *Dane* would not allow him a Drop to save him

him from Death, but suffer him to perish. And when the Janizary had a Mind for a Piece of Beef, he would oblige the Man of the House to kill this Cow, whose Milk was the greatest Part of his Sustenance; and when that Beast was the whole Stock he was possessed of. These Barbarities and Oppressions distracted the unhappy *Irish*, who were obliged to conform to the sordid and cruel Temper of these Soldiers, and supply them with what Provision they required, how expensive soever; otherwise they would be drag'd by Violence to the general Rendezvous of the Army, and committed to the Guard Room, and kept under close Confinement till the Prisoner had made Satisfaction to his insolent Guest, who often would be so unconscionable as not to be content with less than the Ruin of his Family and Fortune.

The arbitrary *Danes* imposed likewise a heavy Tribute upon the vanquished *Irish*; for every Master of a Family throughout the whole Island was obliged, under the severest Penalties, to pay, as an yearly Tribute, an Ounce of Gold; and if thro' Misfortune or Poverty he was incapable to furnish out his Contribution, he was punished with the Loss of his Nose. No Lord or Lady were permitted to wear any Cloaths but what had been left off by the *Danes*; for if their Habit was of any Value, it was torn off their Backs, and ragged cast off Garments were given them in the Place. These savage Invaders were professed Enemies to Learning and learned Men, and therefore the Sovereignty of the Kingdom being in their own Hands, they determined to extirpate all Schools and Seminaries of Education: The *Irish* were not suffered to have their Children taught to read: The Churches and holy Places for divine Service were likewise shut up or destroyed to the Ground: All the Books they could find they burnt or tore to pieces: The Poets, Historians, Musicians, and the Professors of other liberal Arts and Sciences were banished, or imprisoned, or forced to abscond in Woods and Solitudes to preserve their Lives. No young Lady, of whatsoever Quality, tho' she were the Daughter of a Lord or of a King, was allowed to work with her Needle, or embroider in Gold, Silver, or Silk; and the Sons of Noblemen were forbidden to learn the Use of Arms, or exercise themselves in Feats of Activity or martial Sports, lest they should one Time or other reflect upon the Bravery of their Ancestors, and

grow uneasie under the Yoke of Slavery. The *Irish* were discouraged under the Penalty of Fines and Imprisonment, to make Feasts or publick Entertainments, or to use Hospitality among one another, but were forc'd to be content with the Scraps and Offals, that were left at the Tables of the riotous and luxurious *Danes*, who prodigally consumed at once the Support of many Families, and spent the Revenue of whole Countries to indulge their Palates, and to please themselves in the most scandalous and unnatural Debaucheries.

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ḡḡ ḡḡḡḡ  
ḡḡḡḡ ḡḡ.

Such was the miserable State of the Island, under the Oppression and cruel Yoke of these domineering Foreigners; The Natives were broken hearted, and despair'd of recovering their Liberties; the Clergy were forc'd to fly into Woods, and the most desolate Places, for the Security of their Lives; for the *Danes* were a wicked and abandon'd Race of Men, and so covetous of Wealth and Plunder, that Churches and Monasteries were rifled, their consecrated Plate carried off, and the Religious turn'd out of Doors. But the Cries and Prayers of the pious Clergy, who hid themselves in Caves and Deserts, and incessantly address'd themselves to Heaven for the Deliverance of their Country, prevail'd at last with the divine Mercy to find a Way for their Redemption, as unexpected as it was acceptable to the Natives, who were in Despair, and gave themselves up for lost; for it must be observ'd that the Clergy, notwithstanding the Inconveniences they suffer'd, strictly perform'd the divine Offices of the Church in the best Manner they were able; they fasted and pray'd, and obliged the Laity to be regular in their Devotions, and to intreat, without Intermision, that God would destroy the Power of those profane Invaders, profess'd Enemies to Mankind, and to his Church, and restore the Kingdom to its ancient Liberty. And Heaven rewarded their Piety with Success, so far as to deliver the Tyrant *Turgesius* himself into the Hands of the *Irish*.

For when this bloody Usurper was in the Height of his unjust Authority, among other Methods to confirm himself in his new Power, and to prevent the Natives from giving Disturbance in his Reign, he erected a Castle as a royal Palace, where he design'd to reside, near the Seat of *Maolseachlin*, who govern'd the Country

Country of *Meath*. This haughty *Dane* would sometimes condescend to make a Visit to this neighbouring Prince, who had a Daughter of excellent Beauty, that had the finest Shape and Complexion, and was one of the most celebrated Ladies in the Island. *Turgesius*, who by this Time began to be aged, was at an Entertainment in the Palace of *Meath*, where this Princess sat at the Table, and by her Charms so captivated this royal Lecher, that the Blood grew warm in its old Channels, and he conceived so strong a Passion, that he desired *Maolseachlin* to resign his Daughter to his Arms, and promised she should be the Favourite and prime Mistress in his Seraglio. The King of *Meath* dared not incense the Tyrant by a Denial, who he knew would gratify his Lust by Violence, but with great Submission requested, that since his Majesty was pleas'd to make Choice of his Daughter for a Mistress, he would not make it known in a publick Manner, out of Respect to the Character of the young Lady, whose Reputation would suffer, and her Honour be so blemish'd, that it would be difficult afterwards to dispose of her in Marriage, and provide a Husband for her suitable to her Quality; and therefore he desired, that since his royal Palace was at no great Distance, he might be permitted to send the Princess to him privately, to conceal it from the Knowledge of the World. And, continued he, I will convey to your Majesty fifteen of the most celebrated Beauties that my small Territories produce, who, I am confident, will so far eclipse the Charms you are pleas'd to commend in my Daughter, that she will scarce receive the Honour of being admitted to your Embraces, when you are convinced she is excell'd by so many of a superior Beauty. *Turgesius* was transported with the Expectation of receiving the young Lady, and a Night was appointed to Crown his Hopes and give him Possession; She was to be conducted with all possible Privacy into one of his royal Apartments, and the young Ladies were to be dispos'd of as the Lusts and Humour of the Tyrant directed.

It happen'd that at this Time there was a Convention of the principal *Danes*, throughout the Kingdom summon'd by *Turgesius* to assemble at *Dublin*, in order to settle his Infant Government upon lasting Foundations; to defeat the Prospects of the Natives, who were

were inclin'd to a Revolt, to defend the Country from other Invaders, and to perpetuate the Succession to his Posterity. These Matters, and whatever seem'd to contribute to the Establishment of the Usurpation, being adjusted, the King appointed an Entertainment for some of his prime Ministers and Favourites, and being well warm'd with Wine, he communicated to fifteen of them his Intrigue with the young Princess the Daughter of the King of *Meath*, and promised to bestow upon each of them a young Lady of consummate Beauty, if they were disposed for an Act of Gallantry, and thought proper to follow him to the Court. These lascivious *Danes* conforming to the Practice of the Tyrant, express'd their Gratitude for his royal Bounty; and fir'd with the Prospect before them, desired the Honour of waiting upon him; and accordingly *Turgesius*, attended with fifteen of his debauch'd Nobles and Officers, set out from *Dublin*, where the Assembly sat, and arrived at the Palace where he usually kept his Residence.

But *Maolseachlin* the King of *Meath*, design'd nothing less than to contribute to the Prostitution of his Daughter, and resolving to vindicate the Honour of the young Lady, he enter'd upon a desperate Attempt to dethrone and destroy the Tyrant, and sacrifice him to the Fury of his own Lust. Accordingly he selected fifteen of the stoutest and most beautiful Youths in his Dominions, who were of a fair fresh Complexion, and had no Beards upon their Faces; He order'd them to be apparell'd in the Habit of young Ladies, and to conceal under their Gowns a short sharp Sword, which they were to make use of according to his Directions. Thus fitted out, the Princess, attended with her Retinue, upon the Night appointed left her Father's Court; and when she arrived near the Castle, where *Turgesius* had his royal Seat, she sent privately to acquaint him of her Approach, which he receiv'd with inexpressible Joy: He gave Notice to his Officers that the Ladies were coming, and having order'd them to retire to their Chambers, he sent one of his Favourites to meet the Princess, and conduct her to his Court. The *Danish* Nobles severally repair'd to their Apartments, that were made proper for their Reception, and impatiently expected their *Irish* Mistresses, while the King with the same Fury of Passion was waiting in his Bed-chamber, transported with the Prospect of satisfying his

eo éaoye-  
acais loeh-  
lan anyo.



brutish Desires, upon a Princess of the greatest Beauty and Quality throughout the Island.

But Providence determin'd to put a final End to the Tyranny of this Usurper; for *Maolsachlin* the King of *Meath*, the better to accomplish his Design, so glorious in the Event as to subvert the oppressive Yoke of these Foreigners, under the Covert of the Night march'd with a resolute Body of hardy *Irish*, and advancing towards the Castle of *Turgesius*, he drew up his Men silently under the Walls, in order, when he receiv'd the Signal from those within, to break into the Fort, and to put the Tyrant and all his Retinue to the Sword.

The Princess with her Followers were by this Time admitted into the Palace, and the Gentlemen who attended her had Orders from the King to preserve the Honour of his Daughter at all Hazards, and to fall upon the Tyrant unguarded as he was, before he had perpetrated his Design; and inspiring them with a Love of Liberty, and of redeeming their Country from a cruel Slavery, he had raised their Indignation to that Height, that they engaged to a Man to expose their Lives in this great Adventure, and they did not doubt of Success. Their Commission was to seize upon the Usurper and take him alive, but to bind him with strong Cords that he could not possibly escape; then they were to secure his Nobles and Officers, who expected other sort of Embraces, and not leave a Man of them alive: And there seem'd no Difficulty to bring to pass this surprising Event; for the Tyrant thought he had establish'd his Power, and broken the Spirit of the Natives, and therefore there was no Occasion to keep a strict Guard about his Person; and his Officers were so infatuated by their Lusts, that they left their Arms behind them, lest they should frighten the Ladies, and discompose them for softer Encounters. There was a proper Signal agreed upon to give Notice to the King under the Walls, when he should rush into the Fort and assist with his Troops to fall upon the *Danes*, who perhaps might be so numerous as not easily to be dispatch'd.

The Circumstances of this secret Adventure being thus adjust'd; the Princess with all her Retinue were introduced into the King's Apartment, who received her with open Arms, and tho' of a very advanced Age, propos'd wonderful Delights to himself in the Pos-

session of her. He examined into the Beauty of her Attendants, who, tho' very handsome and genteel Youths, yet made but an aukward Appearance in their unaccustomed Drefs, and therefore the Princess was sure to find no Rival among them; and was made choice of to sleep in the Arms of this lascivious *Dane*, who embraced her tenderly, and was conducting her into his private Chamber. The *Irish* Youth thought now was the Time to discover and exert themselves in Defence of the Honour of their Mistress and of their enslaved Country; and throwing aside their loose Gowns, laid hold of the Tyrant, and pointing one of their short Swords to his Throat, threatned him with instant Death if he cried out, which so terrified him, that he submitted, and they instantly bound him; then destroying all they met, they forced into the Apartments of the Nobles and Officers, who were unarm'd and prepared for other Engagements, and put them all to the Sword. The Palace was filled with Cries and Slaughter, and to add to the Terror, the Signal was given to the King under the Walls, who broke into the Castle with dreadful Shouts, and finished what was left undone; the Guards were killed, no Quarter was given, the Darkness of the Night increased the Fears of the *Danes*, and Officers and Soldiers fell promiscuously in the Carnage, and not a Man of them escaped. When the Fury of the *Irish* was abated, and there was no Enemy left in the Castle, the King of *Meath* entred the Room where *Turgesius* lay bound, and upbraiding him with his excessive Cruelties, the many Rapes and Violences he had committed upon the *Irish* Ladies, and his repeated Murthers; he commanded him to be loaded with Irons, and to be carried before him in Triumph. The Soldiers were allowed to plunder the Castle, where they found an incredible Booty, and the King with the Princess and his brave hardy Troops returned to *Meath*.

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cniate tob-  
lqn anyo.

This Transaction was soon spread over the whole Kingdom; and the *Irish*, animated with the Success of the King of *Meath*, unanimously revolted, and resolved to throw off the *Danish* Yoke. The Foreigners were quite dispirited and abandon'd to their Fears, when they heard that their King *Turgesius* was taken Prisoner, and his principal Nobility and commanding Officers put to the Sword; and considering that the Natives

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were

were up in Arms, and themselves without a Leader, they thought it safest to fly to their Ships, and with all possible Expedition to quit the Island. Such of these Invaders who lived near the Sea Coasts, got on board without much Difficulty; but those who had possessed themselves of the Inland Country at a great Distance from the Sea, were obliged to retire into Cities and fortified Places for their Security: But the desperate *Irish* resolved to rid themselves of these Foreigners, which now they had an Opportunity to do, and fell upon them in all Places without Distinction: They hunted them out of the Woods and Wilderesses, where they had taken Shelter; they stormed their Towns and Forts, and engaging with irresistible Fury, they slew infinite Numbers of the *Danes* before they could reach their Ships; no Solitude nor Flight could protect them from the enraged *Irish*, who fought for their Lives, and Laws, and Liberties, and determined to bring about a complete Revolution, and establish the Government upon its ancient Foundation. Some of these wretched Foreigners escaped to the Sea under the Favour of the Night; and others who were surrounded by their Enemies, and found it impossible to fly, most submissively petitioned for Quarter, and promised to become Servants to the *Irish*; and to save their Lives, to comply with whatever Tax or Imposition should be laid upon them. The King of *Meath*, when the first Fury of the *Irish* was in some Measure qualified, and perceiving that those few *Danes* that remained, might be so disposed as to be made incapable of giving any Disturbance to the State, received them into Mercy, and having disarmed them, spared their Lives. The Tyrant, after he had been for some Time kept in Fetters, and been a Witness to the Miseries of his Countrymen, had an End put to his unfortunate Life, being thrown by the Command of the King, bound as he was, into *Loch Ammin*, where he perished.

ribine na  
loclanab  
anyo.

This wonderful Revolution being accomplished by the Death of the Usurper, and the Expulsion of the *Danes*, the Nobility and Gentry of *Ireland*, willing to settle the Constitution of the Government, and reduce the Affairs of State into some Order, assembled in a general Convention, and reflecting upon the Means from which they received their Freedom and Redemption, unanimously came to a Resolution to place the Crown upon the

the Head of their great Deliverer *Maolfeachlin*, King of *Meath*.

It must be observed here, that *Buchanan*, the *Scottish* Historian asserts, that *Gregory*, King of *Scotland*, invaded the Kingdom of *Ireland* with a numerous Army, and having plundered the Inhabitants, and miserably harassed the Country with their Hostilities, they had the Success to kill *Bryen* and *Connor*, who were appointed Guardians to the King of *Ireland*, who was a Minor. But this Writer is miserably mistaken in this Fact, because, as the authentick Chronicles of the Island expressly testify, the Crown never descended to an Infant, who was a Minor, from the Reign of *Slainge*, who was the first *Irish* King of the Line of the *Firbolgs*, till the Time of *Henry* the Second, King of *England*; for the Succession, tho' it often descended to the next Heir, yet he was always of Man's Estate; and when the hereditary Right, by the Iniquity of the Times, and the Violence of Parties was laid aside, the Nobility and Gentry commonly made Choice of the most accomplished Person in the Island, and placed him in Possession of the Government. This Historian therefore is not to be credited; for it is beyond Dispute, that *Turfesius*, the *Danish* Tyrant, was the King of *Ireland* at that Time.

*A. D. 879.* *Maolfeachlin*, by the Suffrage of the Nobility and Gentry, was placed upon the Throne of *Ireland*; he was the Son of *Maolruanadh*, Son of *Donagh*, Son of *Daniel*, Son of *Murchada*, Son of *Diarmuid*, Son of *Armeadhaigh Caobh*, Son of *Conull Guthbin*, Son *Suibhne Meain*, Son of *Colman Mor*, Son of *Diarmuid*, Son of *Feargus Ceirbeoil*, descended from the royal Stock of *Heremon*, and held the Government sixteen Years. The Mother of this Monarch was *Arog*, the Daughter of *Cahal*, Son of *Fiachradh*, King of *Bearcuil*.

The *Danes* being driven out of the Kingdom by the prevailing Power of the Natives, under the Conduct of this Prince, they began to form Designs of regaining their Settlements in the Island; for they had experienced so much of the Fertility and Riches of the Country, that their native Possessions were incapable to support them in that riotous and expensive Way of Life which they had used themselves to, when they had the Command of the Labours and the Wealth of the industrious and frugal *Irish*. And in order to concert Measures for another Descent, the principal of the

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*Norwegians*

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on t'read-  
em' bued-  
nuy an ei-  
nir 76.

comple to-  
tion na  
briofloctaw

Norwegians and Danes assembled, and after many Debates they came to a Resolution to send three of their most experienced Generals, with a Fleet well appointed, with Commission to land upon the Coasts of Ireland in a peaceable Manner, to avoid the committing of Hostilities, and by that Means gradually insinuate into the Affections of the Inhabitants till they found themselves of Ability to contend with them, and then Violence was to be used. And the better to disguise their Designs, these three commanding Officers were to pass under the Notion of mercantile Men, and their Fleet was to be called a Sail of Merchantmen, which were to be furnished with Jewels and gaudy Wares to be sold or to be presented to the Irish as Occasion offer'd. But a Number of Arms and military Preparations were to be stowed secretly in the Ships to be used when Matters were well concerted and ripe for Execution. The People of the Island were thus to be corrupted and softned into Effeminacy by this Stratagem of these subtle Foreigners, in order that they might be subdued with the less Difficulty, and in some Measure be the Instruments of their own Misfortunes and Destruction.

The Author of the *Polychronicon* gives this Account of this Expedition, *Post obitum Turgesii, de Norvegiæ partibus quasi sub pacis intuitu & Mercaturæ exercendæ pretextu, tres fratres, Amelanus, Cyrcus, & Imorus, cum suâ sequelâ in hanc insulam appulerunt & de consensu Hibernorum, q̃io dēditorum, maritima loca occupantes, tres civitates, viz. Waterfordiam, Dublinam & Limericum construxerunt, qui tamen numero succrescentes contra Indigenas frequenter insultabant.* After the Death of Turgesius, three Brothers, Amelanus, Cyrcus, and Imorus, came from the Parts of Norway in a peaceable Manner, and under Pretence of Merchandising, arrived with their Followers in this Island, and getting Possession of Places that lay upon the Coasts, by the Consent of the Irish, who were an idle and unactive People, they built three Cities, Waterford, Dublin, and Limerick, and their Numbers daily increasing, they often insulted and disturb'd the Natives. From the Testimony of this Writer it appears, that the Norwegians, by this political Device, and under the Conduct of these Officers, in the Disguise of Merchants, obtain'd Settlements in the Island, which they gradually improv'd by new Acquisitions, till they became able to oppress the Natives, and bring the whole Kingdom in-



to Subjection; and it is not to be wonder'd that these Foreigners carried on their Conquests with that Success, and after their Expulsion regain'd what they had lost, and often enslav'd the People; for it must be observ'd, that the Invaders were constantly supplied with fresh Recruits, their own Country was an inexhaustible Store of Men and Shipping, which encourag'd them to bear up against all Misfortune or Defeats that might happen, and to prosecute their Designs at all Adventures. But the greatest Advantages that were given them by the Natives, were occasion'd by the Contests and civil Discords among themselves; nothing promoted the common Ruin more than their Animosities within themselves, and their unnatural and irreconcilable Quarrels were attended with more dreadful Effects, than could follow from all the Force of the Enemy; and to add to the Calamity, the contending Parties would receive into Pay these *Danes* as auxiliary Troops, who when Opportunity offer'd turn'd their Arms against those that hired them; and thus while the petty Princes were striving and tearing each other to pieces for Trifles, the *Danes*, when they found them sufficiently weaken'd, subdued the Victor and the Vanquish'd, and forc'd them both to confess their superior Power, and own them for their Masters. Thus were the unfortunate *Irish*, by a Concurrence of unhappy Circumstances, again oblig'd to pass under the Yoke, which gall'd them with inexpressible Misery, and could never be shaken off till the Death of that illustrious Hero, the brave *Bryen Boiroimhe*, King of *Ireland*.

The Annals of *Ireland* assert, that when the *Norwegians* had subdued the Inhabitants, not only by their Arms, but by the Effects of their own intestine Divisions, the *Danes*, in hopes of Plunder and Conquest, fitted out a considerable Fleet, and made a Descent upon the Island. They met with some Opposition, but it was fruitless and without Success, for they destroy'd the Country and the People, and plunder'd the City of *Dublin*, and ravag'd terribly all the adjacent Territories; But the *Norwegians* fearing to be driven out of their Possessions by the *Danes*, determin'd to make Head against them before they grew too powerful; and advancing towards them with a select Body of Troops, offer'd them Battel. They accepted the Challenge, and a desperate Fight commenc'd at a Place call'd *Limnduachail*, wherein the

*Danes*

Danes obtained a complete Victory, the *Norwegians* were defeated with the Loss of their best Forces, and a thousand of them left dead upon the Spot. Encourag'd by this Success, the Victors seized upon a great Part of the Island, and still improving their Authority; and plundering the Natives, they became the most formidable Power, and acquired the most considerable Settlements in the Country.

Not long after this Victory of the *Danes*, *Amblaobh*, (otherwise call'd *Amelanus* by some Authors) Son to the King of *Denmark*, arrived in *Ireland*, with a Design to take upon himself the Command of the *Danes*; that were dispers'd throughout the Island; and putting himself at the Head of his Countrymen, he fought the Natives in several Engagements with great Advantage, imposed heavy Contributions upon them, and reduc'd them into a State of Servitude. About this Time died *Olchabhair* the Son of *Cronnoth*, who govern'd the Province of *Munster*, and *Flaithnia*, the pious Bishop of *Biorra*, and *Cormac*, the devout Prelate of *Lathraigh Broun*, soon followed that Prince into the other World.

The unfortunate State of the Island, under the Oppression of these Foreigners, was the Reason that about this Time *Maolfeachlin* summon'd by his royal Writs a Convention of the principal Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom, to meet at a Place call'd *Rath Aoda Mac Bric*, who unanimously assembled according to the Summons; for the Natives consulting their common Safety had layn aside their private Contentments and Quarrels; but it was with some Difficulty they united, and were reconciled by the unwearied Diligence and Importunity of that Holy Person *Eatna*, a Convert of *St Patrick*, who had enter'd himself a Member of some religious Order. In this Convention, among other Acts that promoted the publick Good, it was determin'd that *Maolghuala*, the Son of *Dungaile* King of *Munster*, and *Carroll* the King of *Offery* should conclude a Peace with the Inhabitants of *Leathcuinn*; and in the Assembly it was agreed, that the King of *Offery* aforesaid, should make his Submission to *Eatna* above named, who was a Saint of excellent Holiness and Devotion.

Some Time after this the *Normans* fell in a desperate Fury upon *Maolghuala*, who govern'd the Province of *Munster*, and slew him with Stones; and not long after this unfortunate Accident, *Maolfeachlin* King of *Ireland*, engaged

Flonloclan-  
dice 7 dub-  
loclanwee  
anyo.

leiger gur  
fan am ro  
fud Miall  
mac grol-  
lain bar-7  
gur ma re  
crinachao  
blidsean  
gan biad  
gan beadh.

eat drom ed  
mois dno 7e

gaged the *Danes* and fought the remarkable Battel of *Drom da Moighe*, where great Numbers of the foreign Troops were destroy'd, especially such as were quarter'd in the City of *Dublin*. After this Victory obtained by the *Irish*, *Daniell* the Son of *Ailpin*, King of the *Picts*, left the World, and the King of *Ireland* did not long enjoy the Fruits of his Success, but died of a natural Death after a very troublesome and distracted Reign.

A. D. 897.

*Hugh Fionnliath* was the succeeding Monarch; He was the Son of *Niall Caille*, Son of *Hugh Dorndighe*, Son of *Niall Frasach*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and possess'd the Throne eighteen Years. The Mother of this *Irish* Prince was *Gormsbláith* the Daughter of *Dinnis* the Son of *Daniel*. He took to Wife *Maolmuire*, the Daughter of *Cionaoith*, Son of *Ailpin*, King of *Scotland*, by whom he had a Son call'd *Niall Glandubb*. During the Reign of this King several Actions of Importance happen'd; among the rest, *Connor* the Son of *Donnogh*, who had the Government of half the Country of *Meath*, was unfortunately slain by the Sword of *Humphry* Son to the King of *Denmark*, at a Place call'd *Cluain Foraird*. This *Danish* Prince (known in the *Irish* Language by the Name of *Ambloaibh*), after this Victory, transported a sufficient Number of his Countrymen into *Scotland*, and falling upon the *Picts*, he slew Multitudes of them, and made many of them Prisoners, whom he carried away with him and made them Slaves.

bui 2pla-  
ois me 2no2  
toahlan 50  
halbain.

Near this Time it was that *Hugh Fionnliath*, Monarch of *Ireland*, fell upon the *Danes* at a Place call'd *Loch Feabbail*, and gave them a general Defeat. In this Action the foreign Troops suffer'd exceedingly, and most of the Officers were cut off; for the Victor brought away with him the Heads of forty of the principal Commanders, and the Fight concluded with the Loss of one thousand two hundred of the *Danes*, who perish'd in this Engagement. The *Irish* Army, encourag'd with this Success, attack'd the Fortifications and Garisons of the Enemy, and beat them out of their Fastnesses, and recover'd all the Booty and Plunder they had taken. *Conall*, the religious Bishop of *Cill Sgire*, died soon after this Victory; about which Time the Palace of *Humphry*, Son to the King of *Denmark*, which he had built at *Cluain Dalcbain*, was clandestinely set on Fire by *Gaoithin*, and *Mac Ciáran* the Son of *Roanan*, and

and consumed to the Ground; this Accident occasion'd great Confusion to those within, and the *Irish* taking Advantage of the Fears of the *Danes*, fell upon them and slew a hundred of their principal Commanders; *Humphry* to revenge himself upon the *Irish* laid an Ambuscade, and surpris'd two thousand of them, who were either kill'd, or wounded and taken Prisoners; and this Victory inspir'd him with fresh Courage, for he plunder'd *Ardmach* and the adjacent Country; and when he had rag'd with all the Fury of an incens'd Enemy, he carried off very valuable Spoils, with which he paid and rewarded his Army.

The Death of *Cionsaola* the Son of *Mochtighern*, who had fill'd the Throne of *Munster* for thirteen Years, happen'd about this Time, and he was succeeded in the Government of that Province by *Donnogh Mac Dubhdabhoirionn*, who seized upon the Crown and proclaimed himself King.

The *Danes* by this Time were become a Terror not only to the *Irish*, whom they reduc'd to the last Extremities, but the Success of their Arms gave them Power to improve their Conquests among the *Picts* in *Scotland* and the *Welsh*; the first of these they overcame in a Battle, and slew great Numbers of them, and *Roger* the Son of *Moirmin* King of *Wales*, being terrified with the Fame of their Victories, left his own Country, and fled into *Ireland* for Refuge and Protection; where he met with an honourable Reception suitable to his Quality. These Foreigners it has been observ'd broke open Churches and Shrines, and plunder'd the Dead as well as the Living, which was the Reason that the Reliques of *St. Colum Cill* were removed to *Ireland*, to preserve them from Injury and the sacrilegious Hands of these impious Barbarians. *Lorcan Mac Lachtna* about this Time was fix'd in the Possession of the Crown of *Thumond*. The Tribe of the *Dalgais* inhabited this Country, and their Territories extended to the Gates and Walls of *Cashel*: They had twelve Canthreds in their Divisions, which reach'd from *Leim Congullam*, to *Beallach More* in the County of *Offery*, and from Mount *Eachtry* to Mount *Eibhline*. This was a brave and martial Clan, and it was observ'd particularly of them, that they always chose to be in the Front of the *Momonian* Forces, when they enter'd an Enemy's Country, where they distinguish'd themselves with signal Cou-



rage; and when they were marching homewards, and leaving the Country of the Enemy, their Place was in the Rear, so that they were exposed to the greatest Dangers, and were a Shield to the rest of the Army, whom they always led on to Action, and cover'd them in their Retreat. The old Poet *Cormac Mac Cuillenán* gives an express Account of the Bravery of this Tribe in the Lines following.

*The martial Clan of the Dalgais appear  
In Front, and make the foremost Ranks, exposed  
To the first Fury of the Enemy.  
And when the military Instruments  
Sound a Retreat, they last forsake the Field  
And cover all the Rear: These martial Chiefs,  
Strangers to Fear and Flight, with Victory  
Were ever crown'd, their all-subduing Arms  
With neverfailing Force their Javelins threw,  
And scatter'd certain Death.*

*Hugh Fionliath* the Monarch of Ireland, died without Violence at *Druim Jonasglan* in *Crioch Contúill*, and the pious *Tighernach* the Son of *Muireadbaidh*, Bishop of the same *Druim Jonasglan* was about the same Time translated to a better Life.

*Flan Sionna* was the succeeding King; He was the Son of *Maolseachlin*, Son of *Maolruadhna*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*, and govern'd the Kingdom thirty eight Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Lan* the Daughter of *Dungoil*, Son of *Fear-goil* King of *Offery*. This Irish King met with many Disturbances in his Reign; for he was no sooner fix'd in the Throne but he found it necessary to raise an Army and invade the Province of *Munster*; this Attempt was successfully prosecuted, for the Provincial Troops were unable to oppose him, so that the whole Country lay exposed to the Fury of the royal Army, who miserably distress'd the Inhabitants, and carried them away after they were cruelly plunder'd, into a wretched Captivity. In the Reign of this Prince *Daniel* the Son of *Muireagein*, was treacherously slain by his own Followers, and *Fiachna* the Son of *Ambroith*, the Son of *Hugh Roin*, who had govern'd the Province of *Ulster* the Space of one Year, left the World. *Daniel Mac Muirgein* was insidiously set upon by his pretended Friends

Rioġ eirion  
do but do  
ar 57th 211u-  
man.



and murder'd, and about the same Time died *Donnogh Magh Dubhoaboirm* King of *Munster*.

The *Danes* still carried on their Hostilities, and behav'd more like Robbers than Enemies, for they plunder'd *Cluain Joraird*, and *Kildare* suffer'd the same Devastations. The celebrated *Fair* of *Tailton* was proclaimed about this Time by the King of *Ireland*, which was no sooner ended, but *Maolquala*, who had govern'd the Province of *Munster* seven Years, departed the present Life. The *Normans* were now in Possession of some Part of the Island, and these Foreigners fell upon *Sitrick Mac Jobhair* and slew him. *Aidbet* the King of *Ulster* was inhumanly murder'd by his own Subjects, which occasion'd such Disturbances in the Province, that the *Danes* took the Advantage of their civil Discords, and such of them as lived at *Loch Feabhail*, enter'd *Ardmach* and plunder'd the Country. In this Expedition they surpris'd *Cumasgach*, the King of *Ulster*, and his Son *Hugh Mac Cumasgach*, and made them both Prisoners. About this Time died *Daniel*, a Prince of great Hopes, the Son of *Constantine* King of *Scotland*.

*Cormac Mac Cuillenan* had now fixed himself in the Government of *Munster*, and reigned in that Province with great Conduct and Moderation for seven Years. During the Reign of this Prince, the Kingdom of *Ireland* enjoy'd a settled Peace and Tranquillity; the Island began to recover Breath, after the Calamities of intestine Wars and foreign Invasions. The Lands were manur'd and cultivated, and afforded plentiful Crops; and so remarkable was the Happiness of the Island at this Time, that not a Shepherd or Herdsman was wanting through the whole Country. The Churches and Abbies and religious Houses began to be repair'd and new built, for these Structures were reduced to Ruins by the sacrilegious *Danes*, who ravag'd without Distinction of Places, so that nothing however Solemn or Sacred could escape their Fury. Learning now revived, and many free Schools and Academies were erected for the Education of Youth, in Arts and in the liberal Sciences. Their former Miseries were forgotten by the Inhabitants, and a new Scene appear'd and open'd a delightful Prospect of Peace, Happiness and Prosperity.

Such was the flourishing State of that Kingdom when *Cormac Mac Cuillenan* wore the Crown of *Munster*, that the Contests and Animosities between the petty Princes were happily concluded; insomuch that the *Danes*, fearing the Effects of this Reconciliation, desisted from their usual Hostilities; and tho' the Desire of Plunder remained, and nothing of their savage Disposition abated, yet they apprehended their Lives were in continual Danger from the Natives, who by their common Union and Friendship were able to drive them out of the Kingdom, and therefore a great Number of these Foreigners retired to their Ships of their own Accord, and bid adieu to the Island.

*Cormac*, the King of *Munster*, proposed in one Year of his Reign to celebrate the Festival of *Easter* with great State and Magnificence at *Cashel*; and a short Time before the Holidays he sent a Messenger to the Country called *Eoganacht* that lay near *Cashel*, to demand of the Inhabitants a Quantity of Provision proportionate to his royal Table and the Number of his Retinue, that would be sufficient for himself and his Attendants during his Stay at that Place. But the Messenger was dismissed with a Refusal; and an Account of this rude Denial being brought to the generous Tribe of the *Dailgois*, they prepared with all possible Speed what Provisions were necessary for the King of *Munster*, and supplied his Wants. This Relief was very seasonable, and was received by *Cormac*, with the most grateful Acknowledgments. The King resolved once more to try the Spirit of the People of *Eoganacht*, and for that Purpose he sent to them to desire they would assist him with some of their best Arms and Horses; for to bestow upon all Strangers as would arrive at his Court according to their Deserts and Merits: And the Messenger was to notify, that his Master did not doubt of their Compliance, since they were sensible of the Obligations they lay under, and had not yet paid him the usual Compliments, nor convinc'd him of their good Affections by one single Testimony of their Respect. The Inhabitants of *Eoganacht* did not absolutely refuse to answer his Demand, but their Manner of complying was a notorious Affront upon the King; for they muster'd together all their old batter'd Arms, and pickt out the most useless and disabled Horses they could

could find, and sent them to *Cashel* to the Court of *Cormac*. The Clan of the *Dailgais* were soon acquainted with this insolent Behaviour, and chose a Number of strong able Horses with a suitable Equipage and Furniture, and presented them to the King; the best of their Arms likewise and a Collection of valuable Jewels, were generously offered to his Acceptance. *Cormac* received their Favours with sincere Expressions of Gratitude, and upon the Occasion composed the following Lines; for he was a Prince of great Learning, but his Genius chiefly inclined to Poetry.

*May Heaven protect the most illustrious Tribe  
Of Dailgais, and convey its choicest Blessings  
On their Posterity. This renowned Clan,  
Tho' meek and merciful as are the Saints,  
Yet are of Courage not to be subdu'd.  
Long may they live in Glory and Renown,  
And raise a Stock of Heroes for the World.*

The authentick Records of *Ireland* expressly assert, that from the Reign of *Aongus*, the Son of *Naidfraoich*, who was King of *Munster*, to the Time of *Matthew*, the Son of *Kennedy*, who likewise governed that Province, there had reigned forty four Princes lineally descended from *Eogan More*, the Son of *Oilioll Ollum*; and during this Space of Time it is observed, that the Tribe of *Dailgais* had the Possession of no more Lands than the Kingdom of *Thummond*; but after the Decease of *Cormac Mac Cuillenan*, the Succession to the Crown of *Munster* devolved upon *Lorcan*, who was of the Line of *Dailgais*, and governed that Province till his Death. The Country of *Thummond* had a King of its own, and consisted of all the Lands from *Slighe Dala*, known otherwise by the Name of *Beallach More Offery*, to *Leim Congculann* in the West of *Corca Baifain*. This Tribe of the *Dailgais* always took up Arms in Defence of the Kings of *Cashel* against the Provincial Troops of *Leinster*, and the Army of *Leath Cuinn*. This Account we find recorded in a Poem composed by *O Dugan*, who has related the Particulars in the Verses following.

*The Dailgaifian Troops with Glory fir'd,  
Fought for the Honour of the Kings of Cashel,  
And carried into other Provinces  
The Terror of their Arms.*

data copy-  
maie mae  
Cuillenan  
anyo 78.

*Cormac Mac Cuillenan* governed the Province of *Munster* for the Space of seven Years, and acquired the Character of a learned and just Prince. Fortune favoured him in all his Attempts, his Enemies dreaded his Power, and his Subjects almost adored him for his Virtues. And his Reign might have continued for many Years longer, attended with the same Glory and Prosperity, had he not been misled and overruled by the Advice of his Counsellors, who put him upon destructive Measures, which robb'd him of his Life and Crown. The principal Nobility and Gentry of his Province urg'd him forward to invade the Territories of *Leinster*, and demand a Tribute or Chief-rent from the Inhabitants; and if they refused to pay their Acknowledgments of Subjection, they persuaded him to use Violence, and immediately enter into Hostilities. This Enterprize was not agreeable to the King, but upon the Advice of his Council, and particularly of *Flaberty Mac Jonnuinein*, the Abbot of *Inis Catha*, and of the Blood Royal, who insisted, that the King had a just Demand upon the Province as it was a Part of *Leath Modha*, he raised a numerous Army, consisting of the Flower of his Provincial Troops, and prepared for the Undertaking. His Forces rendezvous'd at a Place appointed, and the Gentry of *Munster* were resolved to prosecute the Right of their King with their Lives and Fortunes; for they supposed he had a just Title to this Tribute upon the Account of the Division that was formerly made between *Modha Nuagatt* and *Con*. But the King of *Munster* opposed this Expedition, and would have disbanded his Troops; for he was endow'd with a prophetick Spirit, and foreknew that the Attempt would be attended with an unfortunate Issue, and he should lose his Life in the Action. Under these Apprehensions he delayed his March, till overcome by the Importunity of his Friends, he advanced towards the Borders of *Leinster*; but before he had entred that Province, he determined to make his last Will and Testament, being sensible he should never return; and  
+ having



having prepared himself by Devotion for that solemn Act, he left considerable Legacies to Uses of Charity, and particularly expressed his Bounty to the principal Abbies and religious Houses throughout the Kingdom: He left an Ounce of Gold and an Ounce of Silver, a Horse and Arms to *Druimabhradh*, now known by the Name of *Ard Fionain*. A golden and silver Chalice and a Vestment of Silk he bestowed upon *Lismore*; a golden and silver Chalice, four Ounces of Gold and five of Silver he bequeathed to *Cashel*; he gave to *Imleach Jubhair* three Ounces of Gold and a Mass Book; this Place at present is called *Imby*. To *Gleannda Loch* he demised an Ounce of Gold and another of Silver; a Horse and Arms with an Ounce of Gold and a silk Vestment he bequeathed to *Kildare*; twenty four Ounces of Gold and Silver he left to *Ardmach*; three Ounces of Gold he gave to *Inis Catha*; three Ounces of Gold and a silk Vestment with his royal Benediction he bestowed upon the Successor of *Mungairid*, with several other noble and charitable Benefactions.

This excellent Prince being poetically inclined, composed his last Will and Testament in Verse; which may not improperly be thus translated.

*Summon'd away by Death, which I perceive  
Approaches; for by my prophetick Skill,  
I find that short will be my Life and Reign:  
I solemnly appoint that my Affairs  
Shall thus be settled after I am dead,  
And this I constitute my latest Will.  
My golden Vestment for most sacred Use  
Ordain'd, and for the Service of my God,  
I give to the religious St. Shanon  
Of Inis Catha, a most holy Man;  
My Clock, which gave me Notice of the Time,  
And warn'd me when to offer my Devotion,  
I leave, nor is my Will to be revok'd,  
To Conuill of Feargus, a true Friend,  
And Follower of my Fortune good or bad.  
My royal Robe embroidered o'er with Gold,  
And sparkling with the Rays of costly Jewels,  
Well suited to a State of Majesty,  
I do bequeath to Roscre to be kept  
By Cronane with the strictest Care; my Armour*

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maie an ro  
7c.



*And Coat of Mail of bright and polished Steel  
 Will well become the martial King of Ulster,  
 To whom I give it; and my golden Chain  
 Shall the most pious Muchuda enjoy,  
 As a Reward for all his worthy Labours;  
 My royal Wardrobe I resolve to give  
 To Mac Gleinin at Cluain by Colman;  
 My Psalter which preserves the ancient Records  
 And Monuments of this my native Country,  
 Which are transcrib'd with great Fidelity,  
 I leave to Ronal Cashel to be preserv'd  
 To after Times and Ages yet to come.  
 My Soul for Mercy I commit to Heaven,  
 My Body leave to Dust and Rottenness.  
 May God his choicest Store of Blessings send  
 Upon the Poor, and propagate the Faith  
 Of Christ throughout the World.*

This *Cormac*, King of *Munster*, gives in his Writings an exact Account of the Convent of *Mungairide*, as appears expressly in that Part of his poetical Composition which begins with these Words, *Aghille, Ceangail ar Loin*, where he expressly mentions the Number of Monks that were Members of the six Churches that stood in that Place. There were five hundred, who were Men of approved Learning, and were appointed to attend the Office of preaching, six hundred Presbyters served in the Choir, and four hundred ancient Men of exemplary Piety spent their whole Time in Prayers and Contemplation.

But to return to the Design of *Cormac* upon the Province of *Leinster*. When he had concerted Measures, and had made necessary Preparations for this Expedition, he thought it not sufficient to make his Will and settle his private Affairs; but it was his Duty, he supposed, to provide for his People, and regulate the Point of Succession before his Decease; for this Purpose he dispatch'd a Messenger to *Lorcan*, the Son of *Lachtna*, King of *Thummond*, to desire the Favour of a Visit from him in his Camp before he pass'd the Frontiers and entred upon Action. This neighbouring Prince came upon the Message, and was received by *Cormac* with great Tenderness and Affection. Soon after his Arrival the King of *Munster* called a Council of the principal Nobility and Gentry and commanding Officers, and leading his royal Guest by the Hand into the Assembly, he

told them that he apprehended the Expedition he had undertaken would be fatal to himself, and therefore to prevent all Tumults, and defeat the Pretensions of contending Factions, he thought himself obliged to settle the Succession before his Decease, and for that Purpose he declared before the Nobility of *Síol Eogain*, who were chiefly, concern'd that he demised the Crown of *Munster* to *Lorcan*, the King of *Thumond*, whose indisputable Right it was, and persuaded them to ratify his Nomination, and accept him for their King. He did not think proper to bind this Convention by Oath not to withdraw their Allegiance from the King of *Thumond*, which was the Reason, it is supposed, that after the Death of *Cormac*, his Designation was rejected by the Nobility and Gentry, who by Election placed another Prince upon the Throne of *Munster*; tho' it is evident that *Lorcan*, the King of *Thumond*, was the apparent Successor in the Government of that Province, in Conformity to the last Will and Testament of *Oíoll Olum*, who ordained that the Crown of *Munster* should descend alternately to the Posterity of *Fiacha Muilleathan* and the royal Family of *Cormac Cas*.

The Provincial Troops of *Munster* being assembled, *Cormac*, attended by *Flathbbbertach Jonmuineim*, the Abbot of *Inis Catha*, who was the principal Promoter of this War, advanced at the Head of the Army toward the Borders of *Leinster*; but before he had pass'd the Boundaries, the King of *Munster* sent an Herald to the King of *Leinster* to demand an yearly Tribute as a Testimony of Subjection, which he insisted upon as his Right, as that Province was a Part of *Leath Modha*: If the King of *Leinster* was not prepared to answer this Chieftrent in ready Money, the Messenger was to require Hostages for the Security of the Payment, and upon Refusal to denounce War. The King of *Munster* halted in Expectation of the Return of the Herald, and in that Interval an unfortunate Accident hapned that was like to be of fatal Consequence to the Army of *Munster*; for *Flathbbbertach Mac Jonmuineim*, the Abbot of *Inis Catha*, who tho' in Orders was a Person of Courage and warlike Disposition, mounted his Horse with a Design to ride thro' the Ranks and take a View of the Camp; but the Horse being frightened, fell into a deep Ditch with the Rider upon the Back of him, which was understood by the Soldiers to be an unfortunate Omen, and filled their Minds with such Impressions of Fear,

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that many of them despairing of Success, resolv'd not to wait for the Event, but withdrew from the Camp and returned home.

The Herald returned to the King of *Munster*, and brought with him Ambassadors, who were commission'd by *Carrol*, the Son of *Muiregein*, and the Nobility of *Leinster* to propose a Treaty and Cessation of Arms till it took Effect: They were to insist that Hostilities should cease on both Sides, and that the Country should be freed from the Apprehensions of War till the Month of *May* following. And to induce the King of *Munster* to attend to these Conditions and accept them, they brought with them a large Sum of Money, and a Quantity of choice Jewels and other Presents of Value to offer him and soften him into Compliance. This Treaty began about a Fortnight in Harvest Time, and to convince the King of *Munster* that the King of *Leinster* was sincerely inclined to Peace, he order'd his Ambassadors to promise that Hostages should be deposited in the Hands of the Abbot of *Diseart Diarmuda* till Matters were brought to a Conclusion. Nor did the King of *Leinster* forget to send a noble Present to *Flathbhertach*, being sensible what Interest he had with the King of *Munster*, who would enter into any Measures upon his Recommendation. But this Abbot, who ought to have been the Minister of Peace, was the great Incendiary, and was not to be mollified into other Sentiments.

For when the Ambassadors of *Leinster* were admitted to Audience and had made Proposals, notwithstanding the King of *Munster*, who dreaded the Consequences of the War, was dispos'd to accept of the Conditions and to prevent Bloodshed, and with great Condescension desired the Concurrence of *Flathbhertach* in his Opinion, yet the passionate and implacable Abbot could not be brought into any pacific Measures, but resolv'd to push on the War at all Hazards, and proceeded so far in his Resentments against the Ambassadors, that he insolently upbraided the King of *Munster* with Cowardise, and told him to his Face that the Paleness of his Complexion evidently betray'd his Want of Courage; and many other aggravating Expressions he us'd reflecting upon the Conduct and the personal Bravery of the King. But *Cormac* thought fit to overlook the Affront, and replied mildly with great Sedateness, that his Aversion to the War was not the Effect of Fear, but proceeded from

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from the Sense he had of the Consequences that would inevitably attend the Expedition, which he was convinc'd would be fatal to his own Life; for, says he, I am assured that I shall not survive the first Battel; and perhaps your Rashness and Precipitancy will likewise prove your Destruction.

After this Conversation with the Abbot, the King retired to his Tent, with very disconsolate and melancholy Impressions upon his Mind, and admitting none but his prime Favourites into his Presence, they persuaded him not to oppress himself with Grief, but to support his Spirits, and refresh himself with what the Circumstances of the Place would afford. Accordingly a Basket of Apples were brought before him which he distributed among those that were present, but with this afflicting Prediction, that his Death was at no great Distance, and that he should not have an Opportunity of dividing his Favours of this Kind among them more. The Company surpris'd and dejected at this Expression of the King, were overcome with Sorrow, and dreaded the Event of the War; for they were sensible that *Cormac* had an insight into Futurity, particularly, when himself was immediately concern'd; and that no unfortunate Accident happen'd to him through his whole Life, but what he particularly foretold before it fell out, though it was not in his Power to prevent it.

*Cormac* order'd every one out of his Presence, and resolv'd to spend what Time he had to spare from publick Affairs in Piety and Exercises of Devotion; and the better to prepare himself for his Dissolution, which he foresaw approaching, he sent for his *Confessor*, whose Name was *Combogall*, a Person of great Judgment and exemplary Holiness, with a Design to confess his Sins and receive the Absolution of the Church. He likewise made some Alterations in his Will, and particularly added a Codicil that related to his Funeral and the Place of his Interment. But though he was certain that he should be slain in the Engagement with the King of *Leinster*, yet he had that Regard for the Happiness of his People, that he commanded those to whom he had communicated the Secret, not to divulge it among the Army; lest the Soldiers should be intimidated: for he design'd to sell his Life at a dear Rate, and if possible to secure a Victory to his Subjects. His Body he order'd to be buried at *Chuain Umba*, if it could be recover'd from

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from the Enemy, or if that could not be obtain'd, he would be inter'd at *Diseart Diarmuda*, for which Place he had a great Respect, because there he resided for some Years in his Youth and received his Education: But *Chlain Umba* he design'd for the Repository of his Bones if his People could convey him thither, because *Mac Leimbnin* was buried there. Yet this Part of the King's Will was disagreeable to a holy and religious Person, whose Name was *Maonach*, who had a particular Veneration for *Diseart Diarmuda*, and endeavour'd to honour it with the Interment of the King's Body, because there was a Convent of Monks under the Government of *Comb-goll*, and *Maonach* likewise exercised some Share of Authority in the Monastery, being the Confessor of *Comb-goll* at this Time.

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This *Maonach* was a Person of distinguish'd Piety, and of a merciful and compassionate Disposition, that inclin'd him to Peace, and prevent the shedding of Christian Blood; and therefore he used all possible Endeavours to heal the Breach, and prevail with the King of *Munster* to desist from the Prosecution of the War, and accept of the Conditions offer'd by the Nobility of *Leinster*; and as an Argument to dissuade the King from this Expedition, he assured him that *Flam* the Son of *Maolseachlin*, King of *Ireland*, was followed by a Number of brave Troops, and was now at the royal Palace of *Leinster*, with a Design to defend and vindicate the Cause of that Province; and therefore it would be Prudence and Policy to admit of the honourable Terms propos'd, to receive the Hostages as Preliminaries of a Treaty, and not to enter upon Hostilities on either Side rather than to persist and refer the Matter to the Decision of the Sword and the uncertain Issue of a Battle. This Representation was well receiv'd by the King and many of his *Momonian* Forces, and had that Effect upon some of the Soldiery, who dreaded the united Power of the King of *Ireland* and the People of *Leinster*, that they left the Camp out of Fear and Discontent, and return'd home. Those who remain'd declared in favour of a Peace, and thought the Terms that were offer'd ought not to be denied, especially considering the Quality of the Hostages, who were Persons of no less a Rank than two young Princes, the Son of the King of *Leinster*, and a Son of the King of *Offery*: And to shew with what Unwillingness the Army followed the King



King in this Undertaking, they murmured in a mutinous Manner against *Flaibbertach Mac Jonmuinein*, and charged him with being the Fomenter of the Difference between the two Provinces, and exclaimed against him as the Author of all the Miseries that might be the Consequences of the War.

But the Abbot of *Inis Catha* had that commanding Influence over the King's Counsels, that he determin'd to prosecute the War with Vigor, and accordingly gave Orders to the Army to march. He directed his Course Eastwards to Mount *Mairge*, and came to the Bridge of *Leimbglin*, call'd otherwise by the Name of *Logblin*. The Baggage and the spare Horses of the Army were sent before, and *Tiobruide* the religious Successor of *Aoilbhe* with a Number of Clergy halted at this Bridge, till the King with his *Mamonians* arriv'd and join'd them. From hence the Army advanc'd with Trumpets sounding and Colours flying, and came to a Place call'd *Magh Ailbhe*, where he mark'd out a Camp and fortified himself by the Side of a Wood expecting the Enemy. Here he drew up his Men in Order of Battel, and divided them into three Parts under three several Commanders. The Abbot *Flaibbertach Mac Jonmuinein* and the King of *Offery* commanded the first Battalion, *Corimac Mac Cuil-jenain* commanded the second, and the third was under the Conduct of an experienc'd General *Cormac Mac Moibly* King of the *Deisies*. The Battel was agreed to be fought in the Plains of *Magh Ailbhe*, where the Army of *Munster* stood prepared to receive the Enemy; But their Courage began to fail them before the Engagement; for they were terrified with the Account they heard of the Numbers they were to fight with, which as some Authors assert had at least the Advantage of five to one, and consisted of the choicest and best disciplin'd Troops in the whole Kingdom.

The *Lagonians* or the Army of *Leinster* advanc'd with Assurance of Victory, and began the Fight; they relied upon their Numbers and their personal Bravery, and fell on with so irresistible Fury, that the Forces of *Munster* could not stand the first Charge, or resist the Impression of the Enemy, but fled out of the Field, which was cover'd with dead Bodies; for the Defeat was attended with a dreadful Slaughter, and infinite Numbers were kill'd in the Pursuit. This general Rout was in a great Measure owing to two unfortunate Accidents in the beginning of the Battel; the one was a treacherous and

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cowardly Action of *Ceilliochair*, the Brother of *Ceangeagan*, a former King of *Munster*, who being on Horse-back rode through the *Momonian* Ranks, and being averse from the beginning to the Prosecution of this War, he address'd himself aloud to the Soldiers and persuaded them to save themselves by Flight, for they were certain to be all cut to Pieces; and fixing the Odium of this Undertaking upon the Rashness of the Abbot of *Inis Catba*, he advised them to secure their own Lives and leave the Priest and his Clergy, who occasioned the War to stand to the Issue of it, and fight it out by themselves. After his Harangue he clapt Spurs to his Horse and gallop'd out of the Field, and the Soldiers were so dispirited with what he had offer'd, that they threw down their Arms and at the first Charge quitted their Posts and shifted for themselves. The other Misfortune that occasion'd the Defeat was the Cowardice of *Ceallach Mac Carrol*, who had a principal Command in the Army of *Munster*; this Officer amazed and shock'd at the dreadful Slaughter of his Men, rode out of the Field with full Speed and order'd his Men to provide for themselves, and follow his Example before it was too late, and the Enemy prevented their Retreat. They complied with his Advice, and instantly fled, which so discourag'd the rest of the Army that the Defeat became universal, and more were slain in the Pursuit than fell in the Engagement, which was but of a short Continuance; for the *Momonian* Troops were not able to stand against the first Impression of the Enemy, so that the Bloodshed was dreadful, and the Officers and the Clergy were cut off in great Numbers without Quarter or Distinction; and if any Person of Rank escap'd after the first Fury of the Soldiers was abated, he was saved, not from a Principle of Humanity and Compassion, but for the sake of a large Sum of Money expected for his Ransom.

*Cormac Mac Cuillenan*, though convinc'd of the Certainty of his Death, behav'd with signal Bravery at the Head of his Troops, and expos'd himself not out of Despair, but from a Principle of true Courage in the Front of the Battel; but in the Disorder of the Fight his Horse fell into a Pit, and flung him with great Violence upon the Ground. He was much bruised with the Fall, and being unable to rise, it was his Fortune to be seen by some of his own Troops, who were precipitantly

cipitantly flying out of the Field, and remounted him upon a fresh Horse with some Difficulty and left him to provide for his Life. The King by chance espied one of his Favourites, whom he much esteem'd for his Learning and other Accomplishments, making towards him, and understanding by him, that his Army was broken in Peices, and the Slaughter of his Troops almost incredible, he laid his Commands upon this loyal Person whose Name was *Hugh*, and who promised never to abandon him, but be a Sharer with him in all his Misfortunes, to take care of his own Safety, and not to venture himself in his Company, which would be his inevitable Destruction; for his Enemy's, he was sensible, would give no Quarter, and he had but a few Moments to live. It was with great Regret that his Orders were obey'd by this Gentleman, who no sooner left the King but his Horse attempting to climb a steep Ascent, that was exceeding slippery with the Blood of the Slain, made a false Step and tumbled with the Rider down the Hill, and by that Accident broke the King's Neck and his Back-bone, so that he died upon the Spot. Thus was his Prediction accomplish'd, and he did not survive the Action of the Day; but his Body being found among the dead by some Soldiers of the Enemy, they had no regard to the Dignity of his Person; but inhumanly mangled him, and thrust him through with their Lances and then cut off his Head, which they carried away with them in Triumph. This unfortunate Prince, if Providence had thought fit, seem'd to have deserv'd a better Fate; for he was a Person of an exemplary Life and consummate Piety, as may be concluded by his Behaviour in the last Moment of his Life, which ended with this devout Ejaculation; *Into thy Hands, O God, I commit my Spirit.*

*Hammer* the Historian in his Chronicle attempts to impose upon the World with a Falshood; for he asserts that *Cormac Mac Cuillenan* and *Carrol* the King of *Leinster* were kill'd in an Engagement with the *Danes* in the Year of our Redemption nine hundred and five; but this Writer has notoriously mistaken the Fact, for *Cormac* neither lost his Life in that Manner, nor were the *Danes* any way concern'd in that Action; but the Battel was fought, and the Victory obtained by *Flann Siona* Monarch of *Ireland*, who assisted the Forces of *Leinster*, as appears expressly by the History known by the Name of



*allach Mac Carroll* his Brother, who was slain in the Battel above mentioned, and was a tributary Prince to *Cormac Mac Cuilennain*, the King of *Munster*, and of *Leath Mòdha*. Here the *Irish* Soldiers came to the King with the Head of *Cormac* in their Hands, and laid it at his Feet, expecting a great Reward for the Service they had done. But *Flannsienna* was a generous Enemy, and instead of applauding and giving them a Gratuity for the Action, he upbraided them with Cruelty and Inhumanity for violating the Law of Nations, which forbids the mangling and stabbing of the Dead, and commanded them from his Presence as barbarous Ruffians, who had no more Veneration for the Dignity and Majesty of a King than for a common Enemy. The Head was left, and the King of *Ireland*, with Difficulty refraining from Tears, took it up in his Hand and kiss'd it, lamenting the Instability of human Greatness, and the untimely Fate of so religious a Prince and venerable a Prelate. He then gave strict Orders for the Body to be search'd after, and when found to be inter'd as his Will appointed. *Maonach* the Confessor of *Combgall* had the royal Reliques committed to his Care, who removed them with great Solemnity to *Disert Dromuda*, where they were inter'd as became his Character.

The King of *Ireland* having fixed without Opposition on *Diarmuid Mac Carroll* in the Throne of *Oserry*, after he had been proclaim'd and crown'd with the usual Ceremonies, and reconciled some small Disputes that arose between that Prince and his Brothers, return'd with his Army to his own royal Palace. He received the most grateful Acknowledgments from the King of *Leinster*, for his Assistance in the War, who likewise return'd with his Forces into his own Province, laden with Spoils, and followed by a Number of Prisoners of the first Quality.

*Carrol* the Son of *Maireagein* King of *Leinster*, directed his March towards *Kildare*, where he arriv'd with many Prisoners of Note of the *Momomians*, and among the rest, the Author of this Rash and unnecessary War *Flathbheirach Mac Fommhinein*, the Abbot of *Imi Catha*, was led in Triumph among the Captives. The Clergy of *Leinster* were so inrag'd at the Conduct of this hot-headed Priest, that they upbraided him with being the Fomentor of the Divisions between the two Provinces, and the



Cause of all the Bloodshed on both Sides; and they prosecuted their Resentments with that Violence, that the unfortunate Abbot was closely imprison'd and severely used so long as *Carroll* the King of *Leinster* lived; after whose Decease he was discharg'd and obtained his Liberty.

About a Year after the Decease of this Provincial Prince, *Muirionn* the pious Abbess of *St. Bridget* was so concern'd about the Safety of this Abbot, that tho' he was released from his Imprisonment and received his Pardon, yet she apprehended he might be set upon by the enraged Populace and his Life endanger'd, and therefore for his Security she prevail'd with a Number of the most religious Clergy, to procure a Guard for him till he arrived at a Place call'd *Magh Nairb*; from hence he came to *Munster*, and retiring to his Monastery of *Inis Catha*, he spent some Time there with great Devotion and an exemplary Practice of Holiness, till the Death of *Dubhlachtna* the Son of *Maolghuala*, who govern'd the Province of *Munster* seven Years after the Decease of *Cormac Mac Cuillenán*. By the Death of this King the Throne of *Munster* became vacant, and this Abbot was removed from his Retirement at *Inis Catha*, to administer the Government of that Province, which he held for many Years with great Applause; and notwithstanding his want of Policy with regard to the Invasion of *Leinster*, he proved a sober and discreet Prince, and was possess'd not only of the Command but of the Affections of his People. These Transactions above mentioned stand upon Record in a very ancient Treatise of *Cluain Aidenach Frontán* in *Leix*, where the Particulars of the Battel of *Beallach Migna* are related at large. It is a poetical Composition of a learned Person call'd *Dallan*, who was retain'd as principal Historiographer to *Cearbhal* the King of *Leinster*. This Writer gives an express Account of the Number of the slain, as well Officers as Soldiers, who perish'd in that Engagement; the beginning only of the Poem shall be inserted in this Place, because it would be too prolix to translate the whole, especially considering that the Names of the most eminent Nobility have been already taken Notice of. The Lines carry this Sense.

do flant-  
begat me  
toningcū.

*The valiant Cormac, Feimhin and Fogartach  
And the renowned Colman Ceallach,  
With six thousand of the best Provincial Troops,  
Were slain engaging in the bloody Fields  
Of Mugna.*

*Niall Glundubb* succeeded in the Throne of Ireland; A. D. 951. He was the Son of *Hugh Finnliath*, Son of *Niall Caille*, descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*; and reign'd Monarch of the Island three Years. This Prince re-establish'd the celebrated Fair of *Tailtion*, which had been omitted for some Time; and the *Danes* attempting to disturb the State, were overthrown by him in a pitch'd Battel at *Loch da Chaoch* in the Province of *Ulster*. In this Engagement a great Number of Foreigners were slain; but they did not fall unreveng'd, for the *Irish*, though victorious, suffer'd great Loss, and some of their best Troops perish'd in the Slaughter. In the Reign of this Monarch the *Lagenians* or the Inhabitants of *Leinster*, encounter'd the *Danes* with their Provincial Forces, but they were totally routed by the Bravery and Conduct of *Jombair*, an experienc'd Commander of the Enemy, at the Place call'd *Ceannsuaid*, eat 1019  
toilanae  
750011  
difo. and left six hundred of their best Soldiers dead upon the Spot: In this bloody Action were slain *Mac Mui-reagin* King of the *East Liffy*, and with him fell the valiant *Ughaire* the Son of *Oiliolla*, and *Mogroin* the Son of *Kennedy*, King of the *Comanns* and *Leix*, and many renowned Generals, whose Names are now lost to Posterity.

About this Time it was that *Ottir*, a very able and accomplish'd General among the *Danes*, attempted an Invasion upon the Kingdom of *Scotland*, and for that purpose transported a Body of choice Troops from *Loch da Chaoch* and landed in that Country; but upon his Arrival he met with a warm Reception from *Cuag* the Son of *Hugh*, who fell upon him with a Fury not to be resisted, forc'd the *Danes* to retire to their Ships after a terrible Slaughter, and oblig'd them to return without their Captain, who met his Fate in the first Heat of the Action. but toilan-  
at go hal-  
bain.

But *Niall Glundubb*, the King of Ireland, was not so successful in repelling an Invasion of these Foreigners, who landed upon the Island with a numerous Army under

eoſaltac  
mox loclan-  
ac no teaf  
an eipin.

under the Conduct of *Sitrich* and the Sons of *Jombair*: Upon their Arrival they plunder'd and diſtreſs'd the People with incredible Oppreſſions, and among other Succeſſes they made an Attempt upon the City of *Dublin*, and took it Sword in Hand. *Niall* alarm'd at theſe Hoſtilities, reſolv'd to oppoſe the Progreſs of the proud *Danes*, and collecting with the utmoſt Expedition all the Forces of *Leath Cuinn*, he gave them Battel; But the foreign Army embolden'd by their Conqueſts receiv'd the Charge with great Courage, and falling on with a terrible Fury, broke through the *Irish* Troops and gave them a general Deſeat; the Purſuit was hot and bloody, and in their Flight great Numbers were cut off, for the Victors reſolv'd to give no Quarter. In the Engagement of that Day, among the ſlain fell *Niall Glundubb* King of Ireland, and *Connor Mac Maolſeachlin* Prince of Ireland; and there followed them to the other World *Hugh Mac Eochagain* the King of *Ulſter*, *Maolmihig* Son of *Flanagan*, King of *Breag Maſteraibbe O. Dubhſonna*, *Riagh Gineall*, with many more illuſtrious Perſonages, who had the principal Command in the *Irish* Army, and choſe rather to die in the Field of Honour, than ſurvive the Liberty and Freedom of their Country.

A. D. 954. *Donnogh* was the ſucceeding Monarch; He was the Son of *Flann Sionna*, deſcended from the royal Stock of *Heremon*, and govern'd the Kingdom for the Space of thirty Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Gormſath*, the Daughter of *Flann*, Son of *Conuing*, and his Reign was made memorable by many ſignal Tranſactions.

This King ſat upon the Throne of Ireland when *Ceallachan* the Son of *Buadbachain*, but more commonly known by the Name of *Ceallachan Caſbel*, began his Government over the two Provinces of *Munſter*, and wore that Provincial Crown for ten Years. But he met with Oppoſition with regard to the Succeſſion in that Throne, which was like to be attended with fatal Conſequences, but was at length happily overcome; for *Kennedy MacLortan*, a Prince of a formidable Intereſt in that Country, deſign'd to lay in his Claim to that Province, and for that purpoſe came as far as *Gleanamhuin* with a numerous Retinue, to treat with the Nobility and Gentry of *Munſter*, about the Point of Succeſſion; The Throne of that Province was vacant at this Time, and the




the Proposals of *Kennedy* were near taking Effect. But the Mother of *Ceallachan*, a Lady of great Prudence, and much esteem'd by the People, fearing that her Son should be excluded, and *Kennedy* proclaim'd King, resolv'd to use her utmost Efforts to secure the Succession in her Family, which had a just Claim, but were unable to support their Pretensions with a military Force; and therefore boldly address'd her self to *Kennedy*, and expostulated with him about the Injustice of his Design: She told him that he was oblig'd by the Agreement made many Years before, between *Fiachadh Muilleaiban* and *Cormac Cas*, wherein it was stipulated that the Government of *Munster* should descend alternately to their respective Families, and the Right being apparently in her Son, she desired he would not violate the Contract of his Ancestors, and seize upon a Crown by Usurpation which he could have no just Pretence to. This Transaction is recorded in an antient Poem, and the Lines may not improperly be render'd thus:

*Most noble Kennedy, let no Injustice  
Derive a Blemish on your princely Name;  
Consider the most solemn Contract made  
By the brave Fiachadh and Cormac Cas,  
That Munster should alternately be ruled  
By the successive Heirs of both their Families.*

The Representation of this Princess had its desired Effect, for *Kennedy*, overcome by the Justice of it, and conscious of the Defect in his own Title, relinquish'd his Pretensions peaceably, and *Ceallachan* was acknowledged and proclaim'd King of *Munster*. But notwithstanding he had Possession of the Government, the *Danes* disturb'd his Reign with their frequent IncurSIONS; and when these Foreigners perceived that they could not carry on their Designs by Force, they had recourse to Treachery, and were so successful, as by a Stratagem to seize upon *Ceallachan* and take him Prisoner; but his Captivity was of no long Continuance, for he soon obtain'd his Freedom by the victorious Arms of the *Eugeni-ans* and *Dailgasians*, who resolv'd to recover him out of the Hands of the *Danes*, or perish in the Attempt.

This Provincial Prince and his hardy *Memonides*, inspir'd with Revenge, engaged these Foreigners in many

 Battels, and fought them with that Success, that they found it proper to abandon the Province of *Munster*, and look out for new Settlements. But the *Danes* still retain'd an Affection for their old Possessions, and finding themselves too weak to be reinstated by Force of Arms, they betook themselves to their usual Arts, and form'd a Design so base and treacherous in its self, that History can hardly parallel, and deserves from us a particular Relation.

do bealg  
Inlandic 3  
ceallachan  
anyo 7c.

At this Time the *Danes* were under the Command of *Sitric* the Son of *Turgesius*, that cruel Usurper, whose Name only was a Terror to the *Irish*. This General, the Son of that Tyrant, having first taken the Advice of his Council, sent a Messenger to *Ceallachan* King of *Munster*, to notify to him his sincere Inclinations to Peace and a good Understanding and Correspondence between them; and as a Testimony of his Integrity and Respect, he offer'd him his Sister the Princess Royal of *Denmark* in Marriage, who was a Lady of consummate Virtue and unexceptionable Beauty. He would oblige himself likewise never to invade or disturb his Government in *Munster*, and promise that he would withdraw his Forces, put an end to his Hostilities, and for the future make no Attempt upon his Crown, but enter into a League offensive and defensive, and mutually assist each other against their Enemies; and to give a Sanction to these Proposals, he would engage to send him suitable Hostages, whose Safety and Quality would oblige him to the Execution of them. But *Sitric* intended nothing less than to contract his Sister to the King of *Munster*; his Design was to murder him and his Retinue upon the Night the Marriage was to be solemnised, and then seize upon his Crown; and to support his Interest, and after the Commission of this execrable Fact, the better to establish himself in that Province, he communicated this cruel Resolution to *Donnogh* the Son of *Flann Sionna* King of *Ireland*; who instead of starting at the Attempt, encouraged it, and applauded the treacherous *Dane*, and promised him his Friendship and Alliance after the Execution; for it must be observ'd that the King of *Ireland* was at that Time an Enemy to the King of *Munster*, because he refused to pay his Contributions and chief Rents, and by this means he thought he should get rid of a troublesome Neighbour, who disputed his Authority, and denied him the Homage and Testimonies



Testimonies of Subjection which his Predecessors laid claim to.

The Messenger of *Sitric* being introduced to *Ceallachan*, deliver'd the Proposals; and that unfortunate Prince fell into the Snare that was laid for him, by one of his most inveterate Enemies; for when he was told of the Contract with the young Princess, he was transported with the News; for the Fame of this young Lady's Beauty, her Virtue and other Accomplishments had reach'd his Ears long before, and he had conceiv'd a Passion before he had seen her. He suspected nothing of the Design, and being of an amorous Disposition, he return'd his Compliments to *Sitric*, and promised he would make him a Visit with all possible Expedition. Accordingly very noble and expensive Preparations were made for this Journey, he was to be attended with a splendid Retinue and a princely Equipage, and to be follow'd by his Body Guards and the choicest of his Troops, in order to conduct the Princess into his Province with that State and Magnificence that became her Birth and Quality.

But *Kennedy* the Prince of *North Munster*, hearing of the Design of *Ceallachan*, and that he intended to take with him his choicest Forces, and leave the Province of *Munster* unguarded and open to the IncurSIONS of any, who would attempt to invade it, represented the Imprudence of this Resolution, and how dangerous it was to leave the Country without Defence, and by his Advice and Strength of his Reasons dissuaded the King from his Purpose, who alter'd his Measures, and appointing a sufficient Force to secure the Province, he began his Journey, attended by the young Prince *Dunchuan*, the Son of *Kennedy* and followed only by his Body Guards. He continued his Way with quick Marches, and soon arrived within the Sight of *Dublin*.

It happen'd that *Sitric* the Danish General had married an Irish Lady, whose Name was *Morling*, and Daughter of *Hugh Mac Eochaidh*. This Princess hearing that *Ceallachan* King of *Munster* was upon his Journey to accomplish the Marriage Rites with the Princess Royal of *Denmark*, and arrived almost as far as *Kilmainham* near *Dublin*, was somewhat surpris'd at the Adventure, and for Satisfaction freely expostulated with *Sitric* her Husband, what could induce him to bestow his Sister in Marriage upon the Provincial Prince, who

was

was a profess'd Enemy to the *Danish* Race, and had destroy'd so many of the principal Nobility and Gentry of his Country. *Sitric* with great Freedom discover'd his Design, and replied, that he was urg'd on by Revenge to invite the King of *Munster* to *Dublin*, for he would disappoint him of his nuptial Pleasures with his Sister, and when he had him in his Power, he resolv'd to sacrifice him to the Ghosts of those renowned *Danes* he had destroy'd. His Wife was astonish'd at the Barbarity of this Action, especially since *Ceallachan* was appointed to be the Victim; for she had entertain'd a very tender Esteem for that Prince, and was perfectly in Love with him from the Time she by chance saw him at *Waterford*, but had the Prudence not to discover her Concern, and appeared before her Husband to approve of his Design, and outwardly encourag'd him in the Execution of it.

do mndoi 7i-  
cnie 7 da  
Enab do ce-  
allachan.

But the next Morning she rose much earlier than her Custom was, and being sensible that *Ceallachan* was upon the Road to *Dublin*, she convey'd herself with great Privacy out of the Town, and took up her Standing in a convenient Place by which the King of *Munster* was sure to pass. Here she discover'd herself to him, and declaring the Particulars of the Conspiracy that was formed against his Life, advised him to retire with the utmost Speed, and provide for his own and the Safety of his Followers. He was amazed and confounded with the Intelligence, and expressing himself in a grateful Manner to the Lady for her Information, he took Leave of her, and turning about made the best of his Way to *Munster*. But *Sitric* had taken Care to prevent his Retreat, for he had lined the Hedges with arm'd *Danes*, and laid so many Ambushes in his Way, that it was impossible for him to escape. *Ceallachan* and his Retinue found themselves surrounded with Enemies, who gall'd them on all Sides, and did great Execution. The King of *Munster* order'd his Men to fall on and defend themselves against the treacherous *Danes*, and so a desperate Conflict began, and many of the principal of the *Memonians* were slain. The *Danes* likewise suffer'd exceedingly in the Action, and must have given Way to the superior Courage of the King's Guards, had they not been supported with fresh Supplies from the City, which renew'd the Fight; and at length, after a terrible Slaughter, obtain'd a complete Victory. In this Engagement

exuab eac  
101r ceallachan  
can 7 loc-  
landree 7c.

agement *Ceallachan* the King of *Munster*, and *Dunchuan* Son of *Kennedy*, were taken Prisoners, after a long and resolute Resistance; and the *Danes*, after they had stript and plunder'd the Dead, return'd with their royal Captives in Triumph to the City of *Dublin*. Here they were confin'd but a short Time, and were removed under a strong Guard to *Ardmach*, where they were imprison'd with great Strictness and Severity; and nine *Danish* Noblemen of the Quality of *Earls* were appointed to command a strong Body of Troops, whose Business was to secure these Prisoners, so that it was impossible for them to break out and make their Escape.

The Forces of *Munster*, who had the good Fortune to save themselves by Flight, return'd home, where they related the Treachery of the *Danes* in the most aggravating Circumstances, and brought the News of the Captivity of their King and the Death of many of his Followers, who perish'd by the Ambuscade. This Account alarm'd the whole Province, but more particularly affected *Kennedy* Prince of *Munster*, who was deputed Regent of the Country, and had the sole Management of the Publick Affairs in the Absence of the King. He was so incens'd at the Baseness of the Action, and concern'd at the Captivity of his Son, that he resolv'd to take ample Satisfaction of those treacherous Foreigners, and rescue the Prisoners at all Events; for this purpose he summon'd together the Provincial Troops, and making the Battalions complete by fresh Recruits, he provided a formidable Army by Land; and to accomplish his Design with greater Certainty, he fitted out a Fleet of Ships, and mann'd them with able Seamen, that he might make sure of his Revenge, and attack the Enemy at once by Sea and Land. The Command of the Army was committed to the Conduct of a brave and experienc'd General, *Donnogh Mac Keeffe* King of *Fearmoibe*; and to raise the Courage of this General, and inspire him with proper Sentiments of Indignation, he remind'd him of the Nobility of his Blood, and the Magnanimity of his Ancestors, who were Kings of *Munster*; and having repeated their Names, and mention'd them with Honour and due Applause, he related their partiallar Exploits, how they expos'd their Lives for the Good of their Country, and repell'd the Insolence of foreign Invaders; and concluded with informing

do p'laag  
 2h'mneach  
 anyo 7c

ing him of the Prospect he had of Success under his Conduct and Bravery, which he was certain would chastise those insolent *Danes* for violating the Law of Nations, and the establish'd Rights of Hospitality, and by that means procure Deliverance to the Island, and Glory to himself. To support the Provincial Troops if there should be Occasion, *Kennedy* order'd a thousand choice Soldiers of the martial Tribe of the *Dailgais* upon that Expedition, and disposed them under the Command of three Captains of confess'd Courage and Experience, who were his own Brothers, and were distinguish'd by the Names of *Cosgrach*, *Lonargan*, and *Congallach*. This Transaction is upon Record in an ancient Composition, wherein are these Verses.

*Go my renowned Brothers and Command  
 This warlike Tribe; your Names shall not be lost  
 But the brave Cosgrach, and the stout Lonargan,  
 And Congalach invincible in War,  
 Shall stand immortal in the Lists of Fame.*

*Kennedy* resolv'd to prosecute this Design with the utmost Vigour, and therefore he rais'd five hundred more of the Clan of the *Dailgais*, and appointed for their General the Heroic *Sioda* the Son of *Clan Cuilleain*; and another five hundred of the same Tribe he placed under the Conduct of *Deagadh* the Son of *Daniel*, a Captain of distinguish'd Bravery and Experience, who likewise had the Command of Numbers of Nobility and Gentry of the *Dailgais*, who came from the Country of *Thumond* and voluntarily offer'd their Service in this Expedition. The Fleet was now ready to sail, and the Command of it was confer'd upon an Admiral perfectly skill'd in maritime Affairs, *Fialbhe Fionn* King of *Desmond*.

2a01yeach  
 2obalraeh  
 2h'uman an-  
 ro.

These military Preparations being adjust'd, the Army began to march from *Munster*, and took their Rout through the Province of *Conacht*, where they halted; and a Council of War being call'd, it was agreed to send out considerable Parties, to forage and fetch in Provisions from *Jerny* and *Umball*; in these Places they found a good Booty of Cattel and other Necessaries, and design'd to carry them off to the Camp. They thought themselves secure of their Prey, but their Scouts surpris'd them with Intelligence, for they had discover'd

a Body

Body of Troops marching towards them in a regular Order with their Commander at the Head of them. This Information oblig'd these Foragers to retire without the Plunder to their main Body, who were immediately order'd to stand to their Arms and expect the Event. By this Time the strange Troops approach'd near the out Lines of the Camp, but advanc'd without beginning Hostilities, or discovering that they had any Design to attack it. The General of *Munster* resolv'd to be satisfied of their Intention, and for that purpose the brave *Donnogh Mac Keffe* call'd to the commanding Officer, and demanded from whence he came, and whether he was a Friend or an Enemy. The Captain answer'd, that he came out of *Munster*, and that his Followers belong'd to that Province, and were raised out of two particular Places call'd *Gaileangaidh* and *Luignig*. He replied farther, that most of them were the Posterity of *Teige* the Son of *Cein*, the Son of the great *Oilioll Olum*, and the rest were the Men of *Dealbhna*, descended from the renowned *Dealbhaoth* the Son of *Cas*, Son of *Conall Eachluath*, and resolv'd to expose their Lives against those barbarous *Danes*, who by the basest Treachery had surpris'd their King, and kept him in an unjust Captivity. He moreover inform'd *Donnogh Mac Keffe* that he had with him three Officers of signal Courage and Abilities, who had a principal Command over three Clans. The Tribe of the *Gaileangadh's* were under the Conduct of *Hugh* the Son of *Dualgasa*, *Diarmuid Mac Fianachtaig* was the superior Officer over the *Luignigs*, and *Dimis Mac Maoldomhnaig* was Captain of the *Dealbhna's*. This Account is recorded in a Poem of good Authority, which begins with these Verses subjoin'd.

*The most courageous Tribes of Clana Cein,  
And the invincible Dealbhaoth;  
United all their Forces to redeem  
Their King, and free him from Imprisonment.*

This unexpected Supply abovemention'd consisted of five hundred expert Archers, and five hundred completely armed with Swords and Shields, and was a seasonable Recruit and of eminent Service in this Expedition.



The Army of *Munster* was formidable, and began their Hostilities by plundering the adjacent Country, and distressing the Inhabitants. *Mortough* the Son of *Arnalaig* applied himself to the General *Maonagh Mac Keefe*, and desired he would return the Booty that was carried away by the *Momonian* Soldiers, for he insisted upon the Injustice of the Action, and pleaded that it was barbarous to oppress a People who were unconcern'd in the Quarrel, and therefore deserv'd Protection, rather than to fall a Sacrifice to the greedy Soldiers; but his Request was denied, though not absolutely; for *Donnogh* was content, that if there remained any of the Booty, over and above what would satisfy the Necessities of the Army, it should be return'd. But this Answer was unsatisfactory, and *Mortough*, resolv'd to revenge himself upon the Troops of *Munster*, dispatch'd Messengers privately to *Ardmach* to inform the *Danes*, that the Provincial Troops were upon their March, and determin'd at all Hazards to recover their King from Imprisonment, and to do themselves Justice upon those perfidious Foreigners, who broke through the receiv'd Laws of Mankind to make him their Prisoner.

do éiriac  
sonaí anro.

oo bryen  
naile na  
lochtan an-  
ro 7c.

The nine *Danish* Earls, who were the Sons of *Turgesus* the Tyrant, and were appointed to guard the Castle where *Ceallachan* the King of *Munster*, and *Dunchnain* the Son of *Kennedy*, were confin'd, were alarm'd with this Intelligence of *Mortough*, and leaving a small Number of their Forces to secure the Prisoners, whom they resolv'd to remove, drew out their Troops and marched out of *Ardmach*, with a full Resolution to offer Battel to the Army of *Munster*. The Provincial Army directed their Course towards *Ardmach*, but when they arriv'd they understood that the Prisoners were convey'd out of the Castle and carried to *Sitric*, who had put them on Shipboard. *Donnogh* enraged at this Disappointment, gave no Quarter to the *Danes* that fell in his Way, but cut them off to a Man, and next Morning march'd towards *Dundalk*, where they had Intelligence that their King and the young Prince were confined under Deck by *Sitric*, who being inform'd of the Number of the Provincial Forces, and sensible of his own Incapacity to oppose them, had order'd all his Men on board, and resolv'd to try his Fortune by Sea, for by Land he was much inferior to his Enemies, and his Shipping lying conveniently in the Bay of *Dundalk*.

dalk, were of infinite Service, and for the present put him in Expectation of getting clear of the Enemy.

The Army of *Munster* pursued him to the Shore, and expected the *Danes* were shut in by the Sea, which would prevent their Retreat; but were surpris'd to find them on Shipboard, for they had no Notice that their Fleet lay at Anchor in that Bay. The *Irish* were enrag'd at this Disappointment, and while they were consulting what they should do in this Juncture, they spied a sail of Ships, in a regular Order, steering with a brisk Gale towards the *Danish* Fleet, which they supposed to be the Fleet of *Munster*, under the Conduct of that brave Admiral *Faillbhe Fionn*; and so it fortunately proved; for they perceived them draw up in a Line of Battel and attack the *Danes*, who expected no such Treatment, for they thought themselves secure, and that no Enemy could possibly disturb them in those Seas. The Admiral of *Munster* observing the Disorder of the Enemy, fell upon the Ship where *Sitric* and his two Brothers *Tor* and *Magnus* were, and with irresistible Force board'd her with Sword in Hand. He no sooner found himself upon Deck, but he spied *Ceallachan* tied with Cords to the main Mast. This Spectacle inspir'd him with a fresh Supply of Courage, and resolv'd to deliver the Prince at all Adventures; he lay about him with incredible Fury, and after he had slain several of the *Danes*, he cut the Cords and set the Prince at Liberty. He then put a Sword in his Hand, and advis'd him to take upon himself the Charge of the Ship from whence he came, which was now left without a Commander, and leave him to engage the *Danish* Admiral, whom he made no Question to give a good Account of.

*Ceallachan* complied with this Proposal, and *Faillbhe Fionn* continued on Board the *Dane*, and behav'd himself with signal Courage, but was at length overborn by Numbers, and fainting with Loss of Blood, he was slain; and to discourage the *Irish*, some of whom followed their Admiral into the Enemies Ship, the *Danes* hack'd and mangled his Body, and at last cut off his Head. Thus fell the brave *Faillbhe Fionn*, who was oblig'd to give Way to Multitudes that press'd upon him, after he had dispatch'd many of them to the other World; and *Sitric* and his Brothers, being sensible that the Loss of that Ship would Occasion the Ruin of the Fleet, they shew'd themselves

~~~~~ selves able Seamen and experienc'd Commanders, and appeared with that Intrepidity at the Head of their Body Guards, whom they had on Board, that for some Time the Fortune of the Day seem'd to be on their Side, and they began to have a distant Prospect of Victory.

But *Fiongall*, a valiant and expert Commander among the *Irish*, resolv'd to revenge the Death of the Admiral, whom he followed on Board, and maintaining his Post with incredible Bravery, he slew the foremost of the *Danes* that oppos'd him, and the Decks of the Ship were cover'd with Blood. But the Number of the Enemy was much superior to the *Irish*, and they continued the Fight, and supplied the Place of the slain. *Fiongall* found himself unable at length to keep Possession of the *Danish* Ship, and ashamed to retire to his own, he recollected himself, and seizing upon *Sitric* by the Collar, he grasped him close, and threw himself with him in his Arms into the Sea, where in the Disorder of the Fight they both perish'd.

do tucim  
taoifeab  
leac aip le-  
at aipyo.

*Seagda* and *Conall*, two undaunted Captains among the *Irish*, fired with the Glory of this Action, fell upon the *Danes* with redoubled Fury, and resolving to put an End to the Dispute by one Instance of Courage, they made their Way through the Enemy to *Tor* and *Magnus*, the two Brothers of *Sitric*, and rushing violently upon them, they caught them both up in their Arms, and jump'd with them over-board, where in the Confusion they were all lost.

The *Danes* astonish'd at these desperate Exploits of the *Irish*; began to abate of their Courage, and the *Momonians* perceiving they gave Way, pursued the Advantage with that Success, that they boarded most of the *Danish* Fleet, killing and destroying without Distinction, till Victory finally declared for the *Irish*, but it was bought at the Expence of much Blood; for many brave Officers and Soldiers perish'd in the Engagement; nor is this to be wonder'd at, if it be consider'd that the *Danes* were good Seamen, and perfectly skill'd in maritime Affairs, and were likewise resolute and fierce, and resolv'd to sell their Lives at a dear Rate; for upon the Success of this Action depended not only their present Security, but likewise their future Peace and Establishment in the Island.

The Historians, who have deliver'd down to us an Account of this Action, relate that this Fight between the *Irish*,

*Irish* and the *Danes*, was the most dreadful and terrible of any that happen'd upon those Coasts for many Ages; for the Officers eminently distinguish'd themselves on both Sides, nor were the Seamen wanting in their Duty, so that the Slaughter was surprisingly great, for no less than Dominion and Liberty were the Prize of Victory. The Army of *Munster* that stood upon Shore in Sight of the Engagement were distracted, and ran up and down the Coasts with Fury and Distraction, because it was out of their Power to assist their Countrymen, who engaged with great Disadvantage, so that the Event remained doubtful for some Time; for the *Danes* had all their Land Forces on Board, which yet were not a Match for the *Irish* Seamen, who behaved with wonderful Conduct and Bravery, and would have intirely destroyed the *Danish* Fleet, had not some of the Enemy escaped in their light Gallies, which yet were chased briskly by the victorious *Irish*, but they could not overtake them.

The *Irish* Fleet having clear'd the Coasts of those Foreigners, made towards Shore, where they found their Land Army, who received them with open Arms and joyful Acclamations, and were transported at the Sight of their King, who had obtained his Liberty by this Victory. Nor was *Ceallachan* less pleased with his Deliverance, who was under constant Apprehensions of Death so long as he was in the Custody of the Enemy; for *Sitric* was a cruel Tyrant, of a savage and unmerciful Disposition, and had no regard to the Majesty of a King or the Law of Nations, by which his Person was sacred and inviolable; and therefore the King of *Munster* retained a grateful Sense of the Loyalty of his People, and applauded the Bravery of his Sea Forces, who had actually procured his Freedom, and the Fidelity of his Land Army, who had discover'd that Affection to his Person, and Zeal for his Safety, as to pursue the *Danes*, and if they would have accepted of a Battel, to expose their Lives in his Service. He order'd Provisions for his Fleet, and when he had given Instructions for the Care of the wounded, he put himself at the Head of his Army, and by long Marches arrived in *Munster*, where he reassumed the Management of Affairs, and fixed himself in the Government of that Province.

Geoff. Ceallachan  
labam Ceallachan  
yil dny don  
mymain.

But he met with Opposition in his March that was near being attended with fatal Consequences; for *Mortough Mac Flann*, the King of *Leinster*, attempted to obstruct his Passage, and hinder him from conducting his Troops through that Province. This Prince was of a mean servile Disposition, and consulted more the Interest of the *Danes*, than the Prosperity of his Native Country; upon which account he determin'd to take Revenge upon the Army of *Munster*, and vindicate the Cause of those Foreigners upon the brave *Irish*, by cutting off their Retreat, and harassing them in their Marches; for this purpose he summon'd all the Forces under his Command, and resolv'd to lay Ambushes in their Way, and fall upon them unprovided for Defence. But *Ceallachan* the King of *Munster*, having timely Intelligence of the Treachery of this apostate Prince, who had renounc'd the Love of his Country, and wanted to betray it under a foreign Yoke, prepared to receive him, and was so incens'd at the Baseness of the Attempt, that he commanded his Men to give no Quarter, but to make Examples of those Perfidious *Irishmen*, who had no Title to Mercy, and were not to be treated as open and honourable Enemies; and to raise their Indignation the more, he declared that the *Dane*, being of another Country, were to be used as the Laws of Nations direct, but the Enemies they were to encounter had forfeited the common and establish'd Rights of Mankind, and therefore they were to be hunted down as Robbers and Beasts of Prey, and not a Man of them was to be spared. These severe Injunctions, and the Resolution of *Ceallachan*, were carried by Deserters to the King of *Leinster*, who dreading the Resentment of the *Memmonians* flush'd with Victory, desisted from his Enterprize, and withdrawing the Forces of his Province, he retired to a considerable Distance, and left the Army of *Munster* to prosecute their Journey without Hindrance or Molestation.

*Ceallachan* having settled himself in the Command of *Munster*, began to reflect upon the Servitude his Subjects had endured under the Oppression of the *Danes*; and urg'd on by the Treachery of those Foreigners, which he had sufficiently experienced, he entred upon a Resolution to fall upon them in every Division of the Province, and to unite his whole Force in order to expell them the Country. For this Purpose he recruited

soiñle ce-  
al. acham  
aguy a 7a  
fle a 70.



cruted his Troops, and compleated his Battalions, and first assaulted, with unexpected Fury, the *Danes* that inhabited about *Limerick*, and without much Opposition he obtained a signal Victory; five hundred of the Enemy he killed, and took the rest Prisoners. This Success gave new Life to the Prospects of the *Irish*; they plunder'd the Country of *Cashel*, where they found a Body of five hundred *Danes*, whom they put to the Sword. *Sitric*, the General of the Foreigners, attempted to recover the Booty out of the Hands of the Victors; but he was obliged to retire after five hundred of his Soldiers were slain; neither had the General himself escaped the Slaughter, if he had not fled to his Shipping, and by that Means put a Stop to the Pursuit.

*Ceallachan*  
éairil ag  
iongba lo-  
leclandé  
any 7c.

After this uninterrupted Success, *Ceallachan* marched with his victorious Army to pay a Visit to *Danieló Faolan*, King of the *Deisies*, with whom he entred into strict Friendship, and he admitted him into his Alliance, by bestowing upon him in Marriage his Sister, whose Name was *Gormflath*, who was a Princess of great Beauty and exemplary Virtue. The King of *Munster* soon after left the World, and after a troublesome and hazardous Reign, he descended peaceably to his Grave, and without Violence.

báy cheat-  
laechan 7c.

His Successor in the Throne of that Province, was *Feargna*, the Son of *Ailgeanan*, Son of *Dungala*, and he enjoyed the Government of that Country but two Years, his Life and Reign being ended by Treachery; for he was murdered by a Set of Conspirators that were of a near Relation to him.

The Crown was then seized by *Mabon*, the Son of *Kennedy*; his Reign was much longer than his Predecessors, for it continued twelve Years; his Brother *Eichiarnuinn* possessed the Government of *Thummond* at this Time. This Prince had another Brother, whose Name was *Bryen*, who had a principal Command in the Army of *Munster*, when *Mabon* fell upon the *Danes*, and fought the Battel of *Sulchoid*. In this Engagement the Foreigners received a memorable Defeat, and many of their most experienced Officers perished in this Action. Among the rest *Teinill* a Person of exceeding Strength and a distinguished Champion of the Enemy lost his Life, and his

mab cuiged  
 eadireac  
 do loclan  
 acab anyo.

Government of *Waterford*; *Ruanon*, the Governor of *Cork*, *Muiris*, the Governor of *Limerick*, with two more Officers of the first Rank for Courage and Conduct, *Bernard* and *Toroll*, did not survive the Action of that Day. The Slaughter among the Soldiery was exceeding bloody and terrible; for two thousand of the *Danes* remain'd dead upon the Field of Battel. The Victors persued the flying Enemy into the City of *Limerick*, and chased them through the Streets and into their Houses, where they were slain without Mercy or Quarter. The Plunder of that City was generously bestowed upon the Soldiers by *Mabon*, where they found an immense Booty of Jewels, and Gold and Silver and rich Furniture to a surprising Value. After they had rifled the Houses they set them on Fire, they burnt the Fortifications, demolish'd the Walls, and perfectly dismantled the Town and made it incapable of Defence. After this Victory *Mabon* the King of *Munster*, a fortunate and a worthy Prince, was betrayed and seized by his traiterous Subjects in his own Palace, and conducted as a Prisoner under a strong Guard to *Mac Broin*, where he was barbarously put to Death by the People of that Place; nor would the importunate Intercession of the Blessed *St. Collum Mac Ciaragain*, (the Confessor of *St. Baire*) prevail to save his Life.

feallab 3  
 22atgam n  
 mae emei-  
 615 anyo  
 76

In the Reign of *Donnogh* the Son of *Floinn Sionna*, King of *Ireland* before mention'd, several important Occurrences happen'd which must not be omitted in the Course of this History. Under the Government of this Prince died the pious Bishop of *Tuileim*, near the Time of whose Decease *Donnogh* invaded the Territories of *Conacht*; but the Attempt was unfortunate, for many of his Subjects perish'd at *Dubhtir* of *Athlone*, at which Place *Cionaoth* the Son of *Connor* King of *Fa-lie* was slain. Soon after this Defeat *Cluain Mac Nois* was enter'd by the *Danes* and plunder'd, and this Success encouraged the Foreigners to proceed to *Loch Ribb*, where they committed dreadful Ravages, and spoiled the adjacent Country on both Sides. They likewise carried on their Conquests to *Ein Inis*, which they spoil'd, and after a sharp Engagement cut off twelve hundred of the *Irish*, who made Head against them and gave them Battel. But the Foreigners within a short Time lost the same Number of their Men; for twelve hundred of them perish'd in *Loch Rugbruidh*. The

21 mon 3  
 loclan 5 d-  
 gur 3 5 d-  
 10101ab an-  
 10 76.

*Danes* about this Time succeeded in most of their Attempts; for when they could not accomplish their Designs by Force, they prevail'd by Treachery, and by a Stratagem the Foreigners of *Dublin* surpris'd *Faolan*, the King of *Leinster*, and his Children, and made them Prisoners. They likewise continued their Hostilities with great Cruelty, and *Dun Sobairce* was spoil'd by the *Danes* of *Loch Cuain*, and the Country of *Kildare* suffer'd great Oppressions, and was plunder'd by the Foreigners of *Waterford*.

The Inhabitants of the Province of *Ulster*, a brave and warlike People, by this Time grown jealous of their Liberty, were alarm'd at the Progress of the *Danes*, and therefore resolv'd to oppose their Conquests; they had summon'd together their Provincial Troops, and fell upon them with that Fury and Success, that Victory appeared for them at the first Charge; for the *Danish* Forces were unable to bear up against the Impression of the *Irish*, and a general Defeat and a dreadful Slaughter followed. In the Action of that Day fell eight hundred of the Foreign Forces, which Loss was the more considerable by the Death of three of their bravest Commanders, whose Names were *Albdan*, *Aufear*, and *Roilt*, who likewise fell among the slain. This Victory was chiefly owing to the Courage and Experience of *Mortough Mac Neil* the *Irish* General, and the Success of the Engagement was attended with so happy Consequences, that the Effect of it was sensibly perceived through the whole Kingdom. The *Danes* were dispirited and ceased from their former Oppressions, and the Natives enjoy'd a Taste of Tranquillity and Freedom, which had been banish'd the Island for many Years before, and Trading and a State of Prosperity succeeded in the room of a long Scene of Misery and Slaughter.

But this Sun-shine was in Danger of being dismally obscured by an unexpected Attack from the *Danes*, who had been encouraged by their Countrymen to new Attempts, and came with a numerous and well disciplin'd Army from *Limerick* and *Conacht*, under Command of a bold enterprising General whose Name was *Olfinn*, who design'd by this Expedition to surprize the Natives, who were at that Time assembled from all Parts of the Country at the celebrated Fair of *Ro-sca donree* *scree*, which was annually kept upon the Festival of St. *Peter* *Roy d'ene* *anyo 76.*



*Peter* and *St. Paul*. But the *Irish* were so well acquainted with the *Danish* Treachery, that they thought proper to bring their Arms with them, and when they had Intelligence that the Foreigners were marching against them, they immediately left their Trade, their Shops, and their Merchandise, which they esteem'd of small Importance to the Concern of their Country, and made Head against the *Danes*; and notwithstanding the Disadvantages they lay under from the Surprise, which gave them no Time to draw up in regular Order, they supplied this Defect by their Unanimity and Courage, and so shock'd the foreign Troops at the first Charge, that they felt the Impression through all their Ranks, and a terrible Slaughter and an universal Rout follow'd, and Fortune and Victory declared for the *Irish*. Four thousand of the Enemy were left dead in this Engagement, and *Olfin* a *Danish* Earl and General of the Army was slain. This memorable Instance of Success obtained by Merchants, Shop-keepers and Traders, met together without Order and Discipline in a publick Fair, is expressly recorded by a reputable Author call'd *Florence Mac Carty*, who has delivered down the Transactions of *Ireland* for many Ages.

About this Time died *Teige* the Son of *Cabill*, who enjoy'd the Government of *Conacht* for twenty Years, as did likewise *Sitric* the Son of *Fombair*, who was the King over the *Danes* and *Norwegians*, wherever dispers'd throughout the Island. The Inhabitants of the Province of *Conacht*, being concern'd for the publick Liberty, attempted to dispossess the Foreigners, particularly such as resided about *Loch Oirbhsonn*, whom they engaged and defeated; which Success was followed by another Victory, for soon after *Conuing Mac Neill* observing his Opportunity fell upon the *Danes*, and slew twelve hundred of them at *Loch Neackach*. But this Misfortune was recover'd by the Foreigners, who came to *Loch Eirne* and plunder'd the adjacent Country with incredible Barbarity. Nothing however sacred or devoted to divine Use escaped their Fury, but the Churches and religious Houses were spoiled and rifled, and the Clergy dispossess'd without Mercy. The Province of *Ardmarch* was likewise invaded and harass'd by *Godfrey*, who was the principal Commander of *Loch Cuain*; and *Cilcuillen* about the same Time was spoil'd by *Ambrose* the Son of *Godfrey*, who destroy'd the Country with Fire

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and

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166666  
anyo 7c.

and Sword, and carried away a thousand Prisoners. *Oiliach Neid* likewise felt the Fury of these Foreigners, who plunder'd it, and seized upon *Mortough Mac Neill*, whom they closely imprisoned, but by a Stratagem he freed himself from Confinement and escaped their Hands.

But the *Irish*, resolv'd to shake off the Oppression of the *Danes*, encounter'd them, particularly the People of *Conacht* exerted themselves, and in the Assault kill'd *Arol Mac Jombair*, who held the Government of *Limerick* for the Enemy. About the same Time *Ambrose* <sup>Ruacan</sup> the Son of *Godfrey*, King of the *Danes* and *Norwegians*, <sup>loclanab</sup> who had Possessions in the Island, was slain by the *Normans*, who landed upon the Coasts and attempted a Conquest of the Country. <sup>4970 72.</sup>

There was a Prince of *Wales* about this Time whose Name was *Rodericus*, a brave and experienc'd Commander, who transported a numerous Army of *Welsh*, <sup>breacan 50</sup> with a Design to plunder and spoil the Country, and if possible to obtain Possession of it. But the *Irish* repell'd his Attempt with great Resolution and Success, for this Prince lost his Life in the first Engagement, and the greatest Part of his Army were destroyed. *Hammer* the Historian expressly relates, that in the Year of our Redemption nine hundred sixty six, *Con-A. D. 966.* *galach* the Son of *Maolmuhig*, took the City of *Dublin* that was inhabited by the *Danes*, and gave it up to be plunder'd by the Soldiers after seven hundred and forty of the Enemy were put to the Sword. *Donnogh* the Son of *Floinn Sionna*, King of *Ireland*, did not long survive this Success, but gave up his Life and his Government by a natural Death.

*Congal* was the succeeding Monarch; He was the Son of <sup>A. D. 974.</sup> *Maolmuhig*, the Son of *Flanagan*, Son of *Ceallaig*, Son of *Conmuing*, Son of *Congalla*, Son of *Hugh Slaine*, descended lineally from the royal House of *Heremon*, and possess'd the Throne ten Years. The Mother of this *Irish* Prince was *Mary* the Daughter of *Cionaoth*, Son of *Ailpin*, and his Reign was remarkable by the Death of two neighbouring Kings, *Estimont*, King of *England*, and *Blathchuire Mac Jombair*, King of *Normandy*. The *Danes* raised great Disturbances under the Government of this Prince, but they were severely chastised by the *Irish* Forces, who kill'd seven thousand of them in the memorable Battel of *Muine Breogain*; but though the



Victory declared for the Natives, yet they suffer'd great Loss, and many of their best Troops were slain.

In the fourth Year of the Reign of *Congal* King of *Ireland*, that renowned Hero *Bryen Boiroimbe* enter'd upon the Government of the two Provinces of *Munster*; and this Prince had not possess'd the Crown of that Province above two Years, before he dispatch'd one of his Heralds at Arms to challenge *Meills Mac Broin* the King of *Oneachach*, to a pitch'd Battel in the Plains of *Beallach Leachta*, in Order to revenge upon him and his Army the barbarous Death of *Mahon* his Brother, who was treacherously murder'd by some of the Subjects of this Prince. The King of *Oneachach* receiv'd the Challenge, and promised to meet him at the Place appointed; and for that purpose he rais'd a formidable Army, consisting of *Irish* and Foreigners; for he depended in a great Measure upon the Courage of the *Danes*, whom he inlist'd among his Forces to the Number of fifteen hundred. *Bryen* the King of *Munster* march'd at the Head of his Provincial Troops, and being followed by the illustrious Tribe of the *Dailgais*, offer'd Battel to the Enemy. The Fight began furiously on both Sides, and the Slaughter was terrible, but the *Momonian* Forces broke through the opposite Army, and a general Rout followed; The mercenary *Danes* fled, but were pursued and chaced, and great Numbers of them were slain, and those who had the Fortune to escape the Sword were made Prisoners.

This Success of *Bryen* against the King of *Oneachach*, was very unacceptable to *Daniel O Faolian* King of the *Desies*, who resolv'd to revenge the Slaughter of the *Danes*, and take ample Satisfaction of the King of *Munster*; for that purpose he rais'd a numerous and well disciplin'd Army of his own People, and being supported by a formidable Body of *Danes*, he determin'd to invade the Territories of that Province. He no sooner enter'd the Country but he behav'd with all the Cruelty of an enraged Enemy, and committed inexpressible Barbarities upon the Inhabitants. *Bryen Boiroimbe* soon received Intelligence of these Hostilities and the Progress of the Enemy; he immediately led his Army to oppose their Incurfions, and overtook them plundering the Country at *Fan Conrach*, where he set upon them with incredible Bravery, and impress'd such a Terror upon the Auxiliary *Danes*, that they were totally routed;

do brian bo-  
iroime cal-  
ma enoda  
anyo 7c.

do catarb r-  
dip brian  
boirime 2l-  
bur larg-  
neat; 7 loc-  
lathac.

routed; the King of *Desie*, with his Forces was unable to maintain the Fight, and quitting the Field was obliged to fly for his Life; The Pursuit was hot and bloody, and the King of *Munster* with his invincible *Dailgais* chased the *Danes* and the vanquish'd *Irish* into the Town of *Waterford*, which they enter'd and put all to the Sword, and among the rest *Daniel O Faolan* perish'd in the Confusion of the Slaughter. The Town was sack'd and plunder'd by the Victors, who after they had secur'd the Booty set it on Fire, which raged dreadfully, and consumed it to the Ground.

This great Hero *Bryen Boiroimbe* had enjoy'd the Crown of *Munster* about eight Years, when he obliged by Force of Arms the Country of *Leath Modha*, to become tributary and pay him Obedience. But after the Death of *Daniel Claon* the Son of *Daniel*, King of *Leinster*, the Subjects of that Province, both *Irish* and *Danes*, refused to confess the Authority of *Bryen*, and denied him their Subjection. The King of *Munster* resolv'd to chastise them into their Duty, and for that Design he muster'd his *Momonian* Forces, that were become invincible under his Conduct, and invaded the Territories of *Leinster*. The *Lagenian* Army consisting of *Irish* and *Danes*, offer'd them Battel, which began with great Fury on both Sides; but the Army of *Munster* soon broke into the Ranks of the Enemy, and pursued their Advantage with a dreadful Slaughter, which ended in a general and bloody Defeat, for in this Battel of *Gleann Mama*, five thousand of *Lagenians* and *Danes* remained dead upon the Spot. This martial and renown'd Prince *Bryen Boiroimbe* King of *Munster*, was an Instrument in the Hand of Providence, to scourge the Insolence and Cruelty of those Foreigners, which he did successfully, for he routed them in twenty five Battels, from the first Time he enter'd the Field against them to the last Conflict he had with them, which was the Battel of *Cluintarf*, where he was slain, being then possess'd of the Government of the Island.

It was not long after the Battel of *Gleann Mama*, fought by that great Commander *Bryen Boiroimbe*, that *Cangal* the Son of *Maolmitbig*, King of *Ireland*, enter'd the Province of *Munster* in a hostile Manner, and plunder'd the Country about him, and put the two Sons of *Kennedy Mac Lorcán*, whose Names were *Eichiaruinn* and *Dunmchuan* to the Sword. The *Danes* likewise made

made frequent Incursions upon the neighbouring *Irish*, whose Possessions they destroy'd and Spoiled, under the Command of *Godfrey Mac Sitric*, *Ceanannus Domhnach*, *Patrick Ard Breacain*, *Cill Sgirre*, and many other Places dedicated to divine Use, which never escaped their Fury. The Number of Prisoners which they carried away in this Expedition amounted to three thousand, besides great Quantities of Gold, Silver, and other Spoils, which were prized at an immense Value.

nuat d lol-  
lanac anyo.

The royal Consort of *Congal* King of *Ireland* died about this Time; the Name of this Lady was *Eithne*, and she was Daughter of *Feargal*, who had been Queen of *Ireland*. The Death of these illustrious Personages happen'd soon after, *Maolcollum Mac Daniel* the King of *Scotland*, the most religious *Gaoithine* Bishop of *Dunda Leathglas*, and *Teige* the Son of *Cabil* King of *Conacht*. Nor did *Congal* the King of *Ireland* long survive, for he fell into the Hands of the *Danes*, who served in the Provincial Army of *Leinster*, who kill'd him at *Ardmarch*.

A. D. 984.

*Daniel* succeeded in the *Irish* Throne; he was the Son of *Mortough*, the Son of *Niall Ghandubh*, descended from the Posterity of *Heremon*, and he administered the Government for ten Years. The Reign of this Prince was disturb'd by the Hostilities of the *Danes*, for in his Time the Foreigners, who inhabited the City of *Dublin*, plunder'd the Country of *Kildare*, under the Command of *Humphry* or *Amblaioimh* the Son of *Sitric*. This *Irish* Monarch upon some Provocation invaded the Territories of *Conacht*, and spoiled that Province without Mercy, where he found a valuable Booty, which he carried off with a great Number of Prisoners, and the King of *Conacht*, whose Name was *Feargal O Rourke*, was oblig'd to let these Hostilities pass unreveng'd, the Forces of his Province being too weak to engage in the Defence of the Country.

In the Reign of *Daniel* the Son of *Mortough*, King of *Ireland*, the noble Fabrick of the great Church of *Tham* was erected by the pious Prelate *Cormac O Cillin* Bishop of *Tuam Greine*, and *Feargal O Rourke* was kill'd by *Daniel* the Son of *Congal*, Son of *Maolmitbig*. *Bryen* the Son of *Kennedy*, King of *Munster*, about this Time assaulted the *Danes*, who inhabited the City of *Limerick*, and set it on Fire about their Ears. *Daniel O Neill*, who govern'd the Province of *Ulster*, rais'd a formidable

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7 8aoniol  
anyo 7ac.

midable Army of his Subjects, and entering the Territories of *Leinster*, he miserably distress'd the People, and plunder'd all the Country from the *Bearow* Eastwards <sup>teaf oll-</sup> to the Sea. He incamp'd in the Heart of this Province <sup>teach so</sup> for the Space of two Months, notwithstanding the <sup>laigh le</sup> united Strength of the *Lagenians* and *Danes*, used their <sup>deaf nu-</sup> utmost Endeavours to dislodge him and force him to retire. Near this Time died *Maolfimmin* the Son of *Uchtain*, the pious Bishop of *Ceanannanus*, and the venerable Confessor of *Ullan* was translated to a better State.

The *Danes*, notwithstanding the many Discomfitures they met with from the Natives, continued their Hostilities, and were supported in their Incurfions by the Army of *Leinster*; these Foreigners, under the Command of *Humphry Cuarain*, and the *Lagenians*, conducted by a General of their own Province, plunder'd *Ceanannanus*, where they found Spoils of great Value, which they carried off, and by that means impoverish'd the People, and reduc'd them to miserable Extremities. The Battel of *Cillmona* was fought about this Time between *Daniel* the Son of *Congal*, who was assisted by the *Danes*, who inhabited the City of *Dublin*, and *Daniel* the Son of *Mortough* King of Ireland. This Action concluded with great Slaughter on both Sides, and among the slain fell *Ardgall* the Son of *Madagan*, who had govern'd the Province of *Ulfster* for seventeen Years, and *Donnagan* the Son of *Maolmuire*, King of *Oirgiallach*, and many other noble Personages of the first Quality and Distinction. The most religious *Beacan* the Bishop of *Finne* did not long survive the Engagement of that Day.

It was the Misfortune of the *Irish* that they were never free from intestine Divisions, which contributed to their Ruin; and so implacable was the Spirit of Discord among them, that they would often join with the Forces of the *Danes* to bring Slavery upon their Country; for about this Time *Cionaoth O Hartagan* the Primate of *Ardmach* assisted the Foreigners, who liv'd in *Dublin*, and by that means *Ugaire* the Son of *Tuathal*, King of *Leinster*, was surpris'd and taken Prisoner; <sup>do lochtan-</sup> but this Enterprize was reveng'd by *Bryen* the Son of *Kennedy*, who engaged the *Danes* of *Inis Calba*, and gave them a general Defeat, with the Loss of eight hundred of them upon the Spot. In this Action three of their principal Commanders were taken alive and made <sup>teaf nu-</sup> Prisoners.

Prisoners of War, and the Names of these captive Officers were *Jomhair, Humphry, and Dubhgeann*. We receive an Account of this Transaction from the Testimony of a Poet of Reputation in the following Lines.

*The memorable Fight of Inis Catha  
Was fatal to the Danes, whose slaughter'd Bodies  
Lay scatter'd o'er the Plain; These Foreigners  
Lost three of their renowned Generals,  
Jomhair, Humphry and Dubhgeann.*

About this Time the *Danes*, who inhabited the City of *Dublin*, committed Hostilities in *Leinster*, and engaged the Provincial Troops of that Country in the Battel of *Biotblione*, and in the Action *Ugaire* the Son of *Tuathal* King of *Leinster* was slain. Soon after this Victory obtain'd by the *Danes*, *Daniel Mac Mortough*, King of *Ireland*, left the World by a natural Death, and expired at *Ardmach*.

A. D. 1004. *Maolseachluin* was the succeeding Monarch; He was the Son of *Flann Sionna*, a lineal Descendent from the Posterity of *Heremon*, and fill'd the Throne three and twenty Years. The Mother of this Monarch was *Dunslath* the Daughter of *Mortough Mac Neill*, who likewise was the Mother of *Ghniorm* that was the King of the *Danes*, dispers'd throughout the whole Kingdom. Many Transactions of Importance happen'd during the Reign of this *Irish* Monarch, particularly the memorable Battel of *Tara*, which he fought against the *Danes* of *Dublin* and the Sons of *Humphry*, and gave them a total Defeat after five thousand of those Foreigners were slain.

In this Engagement *Randle* the Son of *Humphry*, a Prince of distinguish'd Courage, who had the principal Command over the whole Settlement of the *Danes* throughout the Island, lost his Life. Encouraged by this Victory, *Maolseachluin* King of *Ireland*, and *Eochaidh* the Son of *Ardgail*, who had govern'd the Province of *Ulster* for thirty five Years, joined their Forces, and resolv'd to attack the City of *Dublin*, the Place of Refuge to which the *Danes* retired, and drove them out of the Country: For that purpose they made all necessary Provisions for a Siege, and with a numerous and well appointed Army sat down before the Walls. But three Days after their first Encampment they resolv'd to make a general Assault, and try the Courage of the Besieged.

mjba cui5  
mileab loc-  
lanaeh anyo  
7e.



ed. The Storm was violent and attended with great Slaughter, but the superior Bravery of the *Irish* at length prevail'd, and fixing their Standard upon the Walls, they so intimidated the *Danes* within, that they gave over the Defence, and the *Irish* enter'd Sword in Hand. The Victors avoided such dreadful Cruelties as usually follow the taking of Towns, and behav'd with Humanity and Moderation. They set at Liberty many Prisoners of the principal Gentry of the *Irish*, who had been taken captive by the *Danes*, and suffer'd a severe and long Confinement; particularly by this Victory *Daniel of Claon* the King of *Leinster*, and the Hostages of *O'Neill* were reliev'd and discharg'd. The Affairs of the *Danes* were reduced to great Extremities by this Success of the *Irish*, and the vanquish'd were obliged to accept of hard Conditions, and were glad to be admitted to Mercy upon the Terms of quitting all their Conquests from the River *Shannon* to the Sea Eastwards, to forbear Hostilities and Incurfions under the Penalty of being cut to Pieces without Mercy and Quarter, and to submit to whatever Tribute should be thought proper to be laid upon them.

About this Time it was that *Humphry* the Son of *Sitric* was forced to fly for his Security to *Aoi Collum Cill* in the Kingdom of *Scotland*, being banish'd the Island by the victorious *Irish*. Near the same Time *Maolseachluin* the King of *Ireland* had a Quarrel with the famous Tribe of the *Dailgais*, and among other Hostilities destroy'd *Bile Moigh Hadair*, but this Action was reveng'd afterwards by *Bryen*. *Glean da Loch* likewise was taken and plunder'd by the three Sons of *Carrol* the Son of *Lorcan*, but these three Brothers were pursued by divine Vengeance for this execrable Fact, and were found dead the Night afterwards by the Influence, (as the Historian is fond of Believing,) of the importunate Prayers of the pious *Caomhgin*, who consecrated that Place for divine Uses.

The Death of two eminent Persons happen'd about this Time, viz. *Morling* the Daughter of *Donnogh Mac Cealla* Queen of *Ireland*, and *Jorard Mac Coise* Pimate of *Ardmab*. The *Danes* notwithstanding the Stipulation they had made, had in some Measure recover'd their former Losses and prepared for new Attempts. The Foreigners of *Dublin*, under the Command of *Morrough O Congallach*, plunder'd *Downach Patrick* with great Cruelty;

Cruelty; but Providence soon corrected them for their Breach of Faith, for a Visitation fell among them, by which infinite Numbers were destroyed. This Affliction was followed by another, for *Maolfeachluin* the King of *Ireland* engaged the Foreigners with Success, and encountering Hand to Hand with one of their profess'd Champions, whose Name was *Tomor*, he foiled him, and as a Trophy of Victory he took from him a Collar of Gold, which he wore about his Neck. He fought another of their chief Commanders with the same Success, and carried off his Sword; the Name of this *Danish* General was *Carolus*.

But the Foreigners receiving constant Supplies from *Denmark* and *Norway*, began to raise new Commotions, and in a short Time were attended with that Success in their Attempts, that the Natives were in instant Danger of being subdued and forc'd under Slavery. Nor was there any Prince in the Island who oppos'd these Insults of the *Danes* but the brave *Bryen Boiroimbe* King of *Munster*: This renowned Hero with his stout *Momians* was always in Arms and harassing the Foreigners, which by degrees humbled their Insolence and made them less frequent in their Incurfions. And this Success and Industry of the King of *Munster* had so fix'd him in the Esteem of the Natives, who ow'd their Lives and Liberties to his Protection, that they made an Attempt to dethrone the King of *Ireland*, and give him Possession of the Government in his Room; and they were

do brian bo-  
irioine agus  
do riarlib  
ghaimar, 7  
conach agus.

the more encourag'd in this Design, because *Maolfeachluin* was an indolent unactive Prince, addicted to Pleasure and a Love of Ease, and sacrificed the Happiness of his Country to his own private Diversions; and the People who were immediately under his Authority had contracted a servile Habit of Idleness from the Example of the Court, and never disturb themselves with opposing the Inroads of the *Danes*, or calling them to an Account for their Cruelties and Oppressions.

The Nobility of *Munster* and the principal Inhabitants of the Province of *Conacht*, reflecting upon the distress'd and melancholy State of their Country, applied themselves to *Bryen Boiroimbe* as a Deliverer, and it was unanimously agreed in Council that Ambassadors should be sent to *Maolfeachluin* King of *Ireland*, to signify to him, in express Terms, that he was unworthy of the Government, and unfit for the publick Manage-

ment

ment of Affairs, since he neglected the Protection of his Subjects, and permitted them as an unconcern'd Spectator to be oppress'd by the merciless *Danes*, who took Advantages of his indolent unactive Disposition, to destroy the Country and bring it into Slavery. They expostulated farther with him, and used the Freedom to inform him that a King of *Ireland*, who had at Heart the Happiness of his People, would never suffer the insolent Attacks of these Foreigners to pass unreveng'd as he did; that the brave *Bryen Boiwoimbe* had undertaken the Cause of publick Liberty, and to repell the Incur-sions of the haughty *Danes*, and therefore he deserv'd to wear the Crown of *Ireland*, who knew how to defend it with Honour to himself, and Happiness to his Subjects; in the End these Ambassadors declared they had Commission to acquaint him that the Nobility and Gentry of *Munster* design'd to dethrone him, and therefore to prevent Bloodshed and Disturbances they advis'd him to resign of his own accord, and to retire to a private Life. This Representation was received with the utmost Scorn and Indignation by the King, who absolutely refused to comply, and knew the Value of a Crown too well to deliver it up only for asking. He likewise resolv'd to enter into no Treaty with the Nobility of *Munster*, who desired to meet him on the Plain of *Magb da Caombog*, but insisted upon his Right of Possession, which he determined to maintain to the last Extremities.

The King of *Munster* being inform'd by his Messengers of the Resolution of the King of *Ireland*, resolv'd to make that use of the Affection of the Natives, as to seize upon the Crown, and to dispossess him by Force; and for this Purpose he rais'd a numerous Army, consisting of the standing Forces of his own Province, and the Auxiliary Troops of the *Danes*, whom he received into Pay, particularly those who had Possessions in *Leath Modha*, and for that Reason ow'd Homage and Subjection to the King of *Munster*. He set himself at the Head of his *Momonian* Battalions, and directed his March towards *Tara*; but before he began Hostilities he dispatched a Herald to the King of *Ireland*, who had Orders to summon him to resign the Throne, and to send him Hostages of the first Quality for his future Obedience, and if he refus'd, to challenge him to a decisive Battel, and submit the Dispute to

brian boi-roim  
me agus  
riog eilion  
anso.

the longest Sword. The King of *Ireland*, somewhat surpris'd at this Message, return'd his Answer, That he was in no Condition immediately to give him Battel, because his Army was disbanded, and it would require some Time to collect them together; but as a Testimony that it was not out of Cowardice that he refused to meet the Army of *Munster* in the Field, if *Bryen* would suspend his Hostilities, and allow him the Respite of a Month, to muster his Forces, particularly the Troops of *Leath Cuinn*, he would accept his Challenge; or if his Subjects denied to support him with Men and Money for this Expedition, he promised to send proper Hostages as a Security for his Obedience: He likewise desired the Commissioners of *Munster* to use their Interest with *Bryen*, that he would not permit his Army to plunder the Country of *Meath*, but that he would restrain their Excursions, and continue at *Tara* till the Time of the Cessation was expired.

The Ambassadors return'd with this Answer to the King of *Munster*, who accepted of the Conditions proposed, and commanded his Officers to continue the Soldiers peaceably in their Quarters till farther Orders. In the mean Time *Maolseachluin* King of *Ireland* conven'd the principal Nobility of *Leath Cuinn*, and advis'd with them upon this important Subject. He likewise dispatch'd Messengers to most of the petty Princes of the Kingdom to demand their Assistance, particularly he sent *Giolla Combgaill*, whom he retained as his Antiquary, to the great *O'Neill*, to require his Proportion of Troops upon this Occasion, upon which his Crown and the Security of his Person depended, and to injoin him if he refused to supply him with his Quota, to provide Hostages, and send them to *Bryen Boi-roimke* King of *Munster*, as an Evidence of his Subjection and Obedience; for these were the Terms he was bound to accept, which though severe in themselves, yet the Necessity of his Affairs oblig'd him to comply with them. This Antiquary had a Commission to deliver the same Message to *Eochaidh* the Son of *Ardgail* King of *Ulster*, and to *Cathal O'Connor* King of *Conacht*, and require their immediate Assistance; and if they were unwilling to support him against the Army of *Munster*, he had Orders to represent to them, that if the King of *Ireland* was forc'd to resign his Crown, and to give up the royal Seat of *Tara*, where the Monarchs

narchs of the Island had reſided for many Ages, it could be no Reproach to him, becauſe he was denied the Aſſiſtance of his Subjects, but the Diſhonour would more immediately affect the *O Neills*, and the principal Nobility of *Leath Cuinn*, whoſe Anceſtors had been in Poſſeſſion of the *Iriſh* Throne for many ſucceſſive Generations.

The Meſſenger was very faithful in the Execution of his Orders, and when he repreſented the Circumſtances and the Neceſſity of the King's Affairs to the Nobility of *Leath Cuinn*, the Answer he receiv'd from *Hugh O Neill* was, that when the royal Seat of *Tara* was poſſeſſ'd by the Poſterity of *Eogan*, his great Anceſtor, they defended it againſt all Attempts, and therefore it was reaſonable that thoſe who were Maſters of it ſhould ſecure themſelves in the Poſſeſſion, or deliver it up; but with Regard to himſelf, he denied abſolutely to aſſiſt the King of *Ireland*, who had loſt the Affections of his People, or to draw upon himſelf the Diſpleaſure and Reſentment of the noble Tribe of the *Dailgais*, whoſe Friendſhip he eſteemed, and therefore he determin'd to behave himſelf as a Neuter in this Diſpute. *Giolla Combgaill* return'd with this unwelcome Answer to the King of *Ireland*, who found himſelf abandon'd by the petty Princes; and reflecting that the Noncompliance of *Hugh O Neill*, might be attended with bad Conſequences, and prevail upon others by the Influence of his Example to withdraw their Supplies, he reſolv'd to pay a Viſit to *Hugh O Neill* in Perſon, and perſuade him if poſſible to intereſt himſelf in his Cauſe; and as an Argument which he thought was irreſiſtible, he offer'd, that rather than the royal Seat of *Tara* ſhould fall into the Power of *Bryen Boiroimbe*, he would reſign up his Right, and if he would uſe his utmoſt Efforts to defend it againſt the Enemy, he would confirm him in the Poſſeſſion of that ancient Palace and the Lands belonging, and engage for him and his Succeſſors, that no Claim ſhould be revived; and that it ſhould deſcend without Oppoſition to his Poſterity; ſo violent was the Reſentment of the King of *Ireland* againſt *Bryen Boiroimbe*, that he reſolv'd to diſappoint him in his Deſigns at any Rate, particularly that the Seat of *Tara*, which was the Court of the *Iriſh* Monarchs, ſhould not fall into his Hands.



Hobd O  
Neill & Siol  
Eogain anno  
76.

*Hugh O Neill* desired to be excused from giving an immediate Answer, and insisted upon Time to convene the principal Nobility of *Siol Eogain*, in Order to receive their Sentiments upon a Matter of such Importance. Accordingly when the Assembly met he communicated to them the Occasion of the King of *Ireland's* Arrival, and the advantageous Proposals that he offer'd, if they would support him with their Assistance against the King of *Munster*, and the Army that was rais'd against him by the Tribe of the *Dailgais*. After some Debates, the Chiefs of *Siol Eogain* came to a Resolution not to concern themselves with the King of *Ireland*, for they suspected the Integrity of his Offers, and that he did not design, after his Business was accomplish'd, and he found himself establish'd in the Throne, to abide by his Resignation of *Tara*; and therefore their Advice to *Hugh O Neill* was, that he should return a civil Answer to the King of *Ireland*, but refuse absolutely to act in a Quarrel of that Consequence, that possibly might draw upon him new Enemies, whose Resentment might prove his Destruction.

But the Convention upon second Thoughts perceiv'd that they might procure some Advantages to themselves by the Misfortunes and Exigences of the King of *Ireland*, and therefore they imagin'd that the Answer agreed upon at their last Meeting might be alter'd and mollified; and though they seem'd satisfied that if they join'd the Army of the King of *Ireland* against the Forces of *Munster*, they might lose their Lives, and scarce a Man of them return home, especially since they were to engage against the Martial and invincible Tribe of the *Dailgais*, who never turn'd their Backs, and were the constant Scourges of the *Danés*, yet they resolv'd to venture themselves and assist the King of *Ireland* with a competent Force, upon Condition they might find a Recompence equal to the Hazard, and that he would deliver to them one half of the Country of *Meath*, and the Lands of *Tara* for a Reward; for they resolv'd, if they did not meet with Success in the Expedition, their Wives and Children should be sufficiently provided for; and though they lost their Lives, it was their Duty, they judg'd to take a proper Care of the Interest of their Posterity.

These Proposals were offer'd to *Maolseachblain* King of *Ireland*, who received them with Indignation, apprehending

hending them to be exorbitant and unjust; He therefore left *O'Neill*, and with his Retinue return'd to his own Court. Under these Disappointments he was undetermin'd what Course to follow, and therefore he summon'd the Principal of *Clan Colman* to repair to him, and assist him with their Advice. He represented to the Nobility of that Tribe the deplorable State of his Affairs, and particularly inform'd them of the Insolence and haughty Demands of *Hugh O'Neill* and the Chiefs of *Síol Éogain*, requesting withal that they would not leave him in his Extremities, but continue their Fidelity to him at this Time, when he had most Occasion for their Council and Assistance.

This *Clan* assembled upon this Occasion, and weighing even the minutest Circumstance of the Case, came to this Resolution, That the King being unable to meet the King of *Munster* in the Field, and decide the Dispute by Force of Arms, should make his Submission to *Bryen Boiroimbe*, and immediately go to his Camp at *Tara*, where he had lain for a Month, and offer him his future Obedience. This Advice was comply'd with by the King, who taking with him twelve hundred Horse, arriv'd at the King of *Munster's* Camp; he was soon admitted into the Presence of *Bryen Boiroimbe*, who receiv'd him with great Courtesy and accepted of his Submission.

But *Maolfeachluin*, King of *Ireland*, so resented the Treatment he had received from *Hugh O'Neill*, that he inform'd *Bryen* of what had pass'd; and notwithstanding his unfortunate Circumstances oblig'd him to submit, yet he still retain'd so much of the Spirit of a King, that he told the King of *Munster* that his Submission was no Reflection upon his personal Courage, for he fully determin'd to give him Battel, if his Subjects would have allow'd him a competent Supply; and therefore his present Tender of Obedience was the Effect of invincible Necessity, which was out of his Power to overrule. This ingenuous Declaration made that Impression upon the King of *Munster*, that he told him he was sensibly affected with his Posture of Affairs, and promis'd that if he had any Prospect of retrieving the Difficulties he lay under, he would forego the Advantages he had, and allow him a Year's Respite to repair his broken Fortune, and then he would meet him in the Field, and decide the Controversy with the Sword; and he en-

gaged farther that he would rely upon his Honour for the Execution of the Terms after the Year was expired, and would not insist upon Hostages as a Security for his Performance. In the mean Time he propos'd to march Northwards with his Army, to attend the Motions of *Hugh O Neil* and *Eochaidh* the Son of *Ardgail* King of *Ulster*, whom if he found inclined to oppose him, he resolv'd to engage their united Force, and said, that he should not be surpris'd if *Maolfeachluin*, should join his Northern Confederates and fight against him, since he was willing to put the Cause upon the Issue of a Battel, and that the Victor should enjoy the Crown of *Ireland* without Disturbance. *Maolfeachluin* moved with the Generosity of the *Momonian* King, assur'd him that he abhor'd such ungrateful Practice, and promised that he would not, were it in his Power to assist the King of *Ulster* against him; but he was of Opinion, he told him, that his Northern Progress was unreasonable at that Time, and might be justly defer'd to another Opportunity, and therefore he dissuaded him from undertaking it. This Advice was accepted by *Bryen*, and was suitable to the Condition of his Army, for the greatest Part of his Provision was exhausted, and he was in no Capacity to attempt such a Journey, or to execute such a Design.

*Bryen* therefore decamp'd from *Tara*, and directed his March homewards; but first he made a Present of two hundred and forty fine Horses upon the *Irish* Monarch, and bestow'd very munificent Gifts of Gold and Silver upon his Retinue, and the two Kings parted with great Friendship; and with all the outward Testimonies of Affection and Respect. *Bryen Boiroimhe* return'd to his Court in *Munster*, and *Maolfeachluin* took upon him the Care of his Government, and the Administration of the publick Affairs as before.

After the Expiration of the Year, for which Time a Cessation of Arms was concluded between the two Kings, *Bryen Boiroimhe* began his military Preparations with great Vigour; he order'd his Army, after he had compleated his Regiments, to a general Rendezvous, and summon'd not only the Natives of his own Province, but the *Danes* to enter into the Service; There offer'd themselves, as Auxiliaries, the *Irish* and *Danes* of *Waterford*, of *Wexford*, of *O Neachachs* in the Province of *Munster*, of *Corcoluigheach*, and of *Job Cinsealach*. These, when

when they were united, made a formidable Body, and the King of *Munster* at the Head of them march'd to *Athlone*, where he was met by the principal Nobility of the Province of *Conacht*, who had prepared Hostages of the first Quality, and deliver'd them up as a Security for their future Submission and Obedience as King of *Ireland*. Here likewise he received Hostages from *Maolseachluin* King of *Ireland*, who was not capable of meeting him in the Field, and therefore was obliged to confess himself a tributary Prince, and pay Homage to the King of *Munster*. *Bryen Boiroimbe*, attended by the Confederate Forces of *Munster*, *Leinster*, *Conacht* and *Meath*, directed his March towards *Dundalk*; where he met with some Opposition from the People of *Ulster*, but they were subdued with small Difficulty, and the principal Nobility of the Province were taken Prisoners. A continued Course of Victory and Success followed the Arms of this renowned Prince, who having extended his Conquests over the most considerable Part of the Island, what remain'd unconcern'd voluntarily submitted; and thus he seized upon the Crown, and was proclaimed Monarch of *Ireland*.

And worthy he was to command a Kingdom of much larger Extent, for he was a Prince invincible in Arms, of great Experience in military Discipline, munificent to his Friends, and merciful to his Enemies. He had a great Share in the Affections of the People, upon account of his many heroic Victories and Accomplishments; nor was it unjust or inglorious in him to make an Attempt upon the Crown of *Ireland*, for it appears in this History that the Course of Succession was often interrupted, and Hereditary Right laid aside; the Monarchy was in some measure Elective, and generally fell into the Hands of the most valiant and beloved by the People; so that the Aspersions that are fixed by some Authors upon the Character of this *Momonian* Prince, for thrusting himself by Violence into the Throne of *Munster*, are ill supported; nor did he violate any of the establish'd Laws, or act contrary to the Constitution of that Kingdom. The greatest Part of the Island he subdued by his Arms, for he forced under his Obedience all who refused to confess his Authority; but the Justice and natural Clemency of his Temper soon procured him the Affections of the People of all Ranks and Conditions, so that he was proclaimed

proclaimed by universal Consent, and *Maolfeachluin* was obliged to resign the Sceptre, and retire peaceably to the State of a Subject.

A. D. 1027. *Bryen Boirombe* was now in Possession of the Throne; He was the Son of *Kennedy*, Son of *Lorcan*, Son of *Lachina*, Son of *Cathal*, Son of *Corc*, Son of *Anluan*, Son of *Mahon*, Son of *Turlagh*, Son of *Cathol*, Son of *Hugh Caomb*, Son of *Eochaidh Baldearg*, Son of *Carthán Fionn*, Son of *Bloin*, Son of *Cais*, Son of *Conall Eachluath*, Son of *Luighdheach Meann*, Son of *Aongus Tireach*, Son of *Firchuirb*, Son of *Modha Chuirb*, Son of *Cormac Cas*, Son of *Oiliolla Olum*, descended from the royal Line of *Heber Fionn*, and govern'd the Kingdom twelve Years. The Mother of this warlike Prince was *Beibhionn Cianog*, the Daughter of *Archadh* King of the Western Part of the Province of *Conacht*. There were many memorable Transactions happen'd during the Reign of this Prince, particularly an Attempt of *Sitric* the Son of *Humphry*, General of the *Danes*. This Foreigner, with a Number of his Countrymen, fitted out a Fleet, and plunder'd the Coasts of *Ulster* with great Cruelty; he likewise destroy'd and ransack'd *Cill Cleithe*, and *Inis Comeasgraídh*, and carried off very valuable Spoils and many Prisoners.

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After these Outrages of the *Danes*, the pious *Naomhan*, Son of *Maolciarain* Primate of *Ireland*, was translated to a better Life; and about the same Time died *Randle*, the Son of *Goffra*, King of the Isle of the *Danes*. *Bryen Boirombe*, King of *Ireland*, with a strong Body of Troops, march'd to *Cineal Eogain* in the Province of *Ulster*, and from thence he directed his Course to *Meath*, where he continued for the Space of a Week; and being a Prince of singular Piety, he laid upon the Altar of *Ardmach* twenty Ounces of Gold, as an Oblation. He proceeded from thence with his Army to *Dailnaruidhe*, where the principal Nobility of *Ulster* met him with their Hostages, whom they deliver'd to him as Security for their future Obedience. Soon after this he removed to *Tyrconnel*, where likewise he receiv'd Hostages from the principal Nobility of that Country, who confess'd his Authority, and paid him Homage as a Prince in actual Possession of the Throne, and therefore as the lawful Monarch of the Kingdom.



About this Time *Maolruana*, the Son of *Ardgail* King of *Ulster*, dyed, as did likewise the learned *Clotha-na*, the Son of *Aongus*, the principal Poet of Ireland, and *Cathall O Connor*, who govern'd the Province of *Connaught* for twenty Years, and expired at *Inis Domhnaigh*. 2457: c  
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The Provincial Troops of *Munster* and *Leinster*, under the Conduct of *Mortough* the Son of *Bryen Boiroimbe*, made Incurfions and plunder'd *Cineal Luigbeach*: There attended him in this Expedition *Flatbhbhertach*, the Son of *Muireadbach*, who raised a resolute Body of the martial Tribe of the *O Neils* and did great Execution upon the Enemy. In this Attempt the Spoils that were carried off amounted to a great Value, and the Number of Prisoners were three hundred. The King of Ireland likewise at the Head of a formidable Army march'd to *Magh Coruinn*, and surpris'd *Maolruadbna O Doraidh* King of *Cineal Conuill*, and carried him Prisoner to *Cean Coradh*. *Mortough* the Son of the King of Ireland, a valiant and warlike Prince, enter'd the Province of *Leinster* with Fire and Sword, and rag'd over the Country in a terrible Manner as far as *Gleanda Loch*, and from thence he led his victorious Army to *Kilmainham*. The *Danes* about this Time set to Sea and landed upon the Coasts of *Munster*, where they committed dreadful Ravages, and plunder'd *Cork* and then set it on Fire. But the divine Vengeance pursued these savage Barbarians; for soon after these Hostilities *Humphry* the Son of *Sitric*, King of the *Danes*, and *Mathghamhuin* the Son of *Dubhgail*, the Son of *Humphry*, were seized by Stratagem and murther'd by *Daniel Dubhdabhoireann*. About this Time the *Lagenians*, in Conjunction with the *Danes* of *Leinster*, enter'd the Country of *Meath*, and plunder'd *Tarmuin Feicinn* with great Cruelty, and carried away a multitude of Prisoners. But the Hand of God was distinguish'd in the Punishment of these Ravagers; for they perished soon after by exemplary Inflictions from Heaven.

*Bryen Boiroimbe*, having fixed himself in the absolute Possession of the Throne of *Ireland*, and suppress'd by Force of Arms the unruly *Danes* and others, who oppos'd him, resolv'd to settle the disorder'd State of his Dominions, and repair what the Fury of the civil Wars had destroy'd. In the first Place he judg'd it would contribute to his future Security, to bestow some popu-

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lar Favours upon the principal Nobility and Gentry of the Kingdom, whom by degrees he so obliged by conferring very valuable Rights and Privileges upon them, that instead of disturbing his Reign with new Commotions, they were overcome by his Clemency and Indulgence, and approved themselves a loyal and obedient People. This generous and princely Conduct fix'd him in the Affections of his Subjects, and obtain'd him the Character of a worthy and munificent Prince. By this Time a general Peace and Tranquillity prevail'd throughout the Island, which afforded a proper Opportunity to the King of *Ireland*, to rebuild and repair the Churches and religious Houses which the wicked *Danes* had destroy'd. He summon'd together all the Clergy of whatever Order, who had been ejected by these cruel Sequestrators during the Time of the publick Troubles, and inquiring strictly into the Rights and Pretensions of every one, he restored them all to their several Claims, and fill'd the Cathedrals and Abbies, with the Members that belong'd to them. The Revenues likewise of the Church, that had been seized by the sacrilegious *Danes* and perverted to abominable Purposes, he recover'd, and establish'd them upon their original Foundations.

The Face of Religion being thus cleared up, his next Care was to provide for the Education of Youth; and for that End he repair'd the publick Schools that had been destroy'd by the *Danes*, who were profess'd Enemies to Learning, and erected new Academies where they were wanting in several Parts of the Kingdom. In these Nurseries were the liberal Sciences and all the Branches of human Learning taught; Publick Libraries were built for the Use of poor Students, and a Provision made for Youth of promising Hopes, who were unable to support themselves. And thus were the Universities enrich'd and govern'd by regular Discipline, which had that Effect as to train up Persons of excellent Abilities in all Professions, who revived the decay'd State of Learning, and not only concern'd themselves in instructing the Youth of their own Kingdom, but were of excellent Use in polishing the rugged and illiterate Disposition of the neighbouring Nations.

The Commons likewise of the Kingdom, who were Lords of Lands, the Farmers, and the lowest Degree of the People, were indowed with large Immunities by the Munificence of this Prince, who bestow'd upon the native

native *Irish* whatever Territories he conquer'd from the *Danes*; and if such, who were the original Proprietors, were alive, and could give Evidence of their Right, they were settled in their former Possessions and confirm'd in them. This Prince kept his Court free from Sycophants and Favourites, nor would he enrich his nearest Relations by oppressing the meanest Subject in the Island. He it was that appointed Surnames of Distinction, to all the several Branches of the *Milesian* Race, and to other principal Families in *Ireland*, in order to avoid Confusion, and that the Genealogies might be preserved with more Regularity. Among other publick Structures, this Prince erected the great Church of *Killaloe*, and the Church of *Inis Cealtirach*, and repaired the Steeple of *Tuam Greine*, that was ruinous and decay'd. He likewise laid Causeways throughout the Kingdom, and mended the high Roads for the ease of Travellers, which was an Act very popular to his Subjects. He built Garisons, and raised Fortifications in proper Places, where he kept a standing Force, to be ready upon all Exigencies and Necessities of the State. He also fortified the royal Palace of *Cashel*, of *Cean Feabradh*, of *Inis Lochá Cea*, of *Inis Lochá Guir*, of *Dun Eochair Maighe*, of *Dun Jasg*, of *Dun Trilliag*, of *Dun Gcrott*, of *Dun Cliach Insi an Gaill Duibh*, of *Inis Lochá Saigblean*, of *Rosna Riogh*, of *Ceann Coradh*, of *Beirimbe*, and of all the royal Forts in the Province of *Munster*. He built Bridges over Rivers and deep Waters that were unpassable before, and repaired and purged the Corruptions that had crept into the establish'd Laws, and inspir'd his Subjects with such a Spirit of Honour, Integrity and Virtue, that a young Lady of excellent Beauty, undertook a Journey from the North of *Ireland*, adorn'd with Jewels and a most costly Dress; and as a Testimony of the Security there was in Travelling, she carried a Wand in her Hand with a Gold Ring of great Value fixed upon the Top of it, and arrived at a Place call'd *Tonn Cliodhna*, which lay in the Southern Part of the Island, and was at the utmost Distance from the Place she set out; yet such Impressions had the good Laws of *Bryen* fix'd upon the Minds of the People, that no Person attempted to injure her Honour, or to rob her of the Ring that she carried openly upon a Stick, or strip her of her Cloaths which would have been a valuable Booty. This Transaction is deliver'd

to

to Posterity in a poetical Composition of good Authority, wherein are the Lines following.

*The Institutes of Bryen Boiroimhe,  
So wholesome for the Support of Virtue,  
Were kept with so much Reverence and Regard,  
That a young Lady of consummate Beauty,  
Adorn'd with Jewels and a Ring of Gold;  
Travell'd alone on Foot from North to South  
And no Attempt was made upon her Honour,  
Or to divest her of the Cloaths she wore.*

The Kingdom of *Ireland* recover'd a breathing Time from intestine and foreign Wars, under the kind Influences of the Administration of this Prince, who open'd a Scene of Plenty and Tranquillity to the Inhabitants, which continued without Interruption for the Space of twelve Years, which was the whole Time of his Reign. The State of Happiness which prevail'd throughout the Island, is recorded in the Verses subjoin'd.

*The most renowned Bryen Boiroimhe,  
Govern'd the Isle in Peace; and through his Reign  
The Irish were a brave and wealthy People,  
And Wars and Discords ceased.*

The Historians of those Times account this excellent Prince in the Number of the heroic and munificent Kings that sat upon the Throne of that Kingdom. They always mention him as the third whose Conduct and heroic Virtues rais'd the Reputation of the *Irish* and made them formidable to their Enemies. The first of these excellent Monarchs they esteem to be *Conaire* the great the Son of *Eidersgeoil*; the second was *Cormac* the Son of *Art*, the Son of *Conn*, the renown'd Hero of the hundred Battels, and the third in the Lists of Fame was the most illustrious *Bryen Boiroimhe* King of *Ireland*. This magnificent Prince supported his royal Grandeur by a splendid Court, and kept a most sumptuous and hospitable Table suited to his Dignity. The Quantity of Provisions that were daily consumed is scarce credible. The Place of his Residence was *Ceann Coradh*, where his Retinue was becoming the Majesty of an *Irish* Monarch, and whither the three Provinces of the Island brought their Subsidies

Subsidies and Contributions, which were very large, to defray the Expences of his royal Court, beside the constant Revenue which arose from the two Provinces of *Munster*, and was paid yearly into his Exchequer. An Account of these Particulars are transmitted to us by a celebrated Poet and Antiquary in a Poem, which begins with these Words, *Boiroimbe Baile na Riogh*. This Writer expressly relates the constant Tribute both of Provisions and other Necessaries, that was paid not only by the two Provinces of *Munster*, but by the other three Provinces of the Island. The Particulars are specified in the following Order. Two thousand <sup>don éiof a</sup> six hundred and seventy Beeves, one thousand three <sup>bur don</sup> hundred and seventy Hogs, a hundred and eighty Loads <sup>éain do euy</sup> or Tuns of Iron, three hundred and twenty five Hog- <sup>ti gaba</sup> sheads or Pipes of Red Wine, and one hundred and fifty <sup>bliaáan go</sup> Pipes of other Wines, of various Sorts, and five hun- <sup>eadh eoidé</sup> dred Mantles. These annual Tributes, appointed for <sup>áiblatiof</sup> the Use and Service of the Crown, were laid by public Laws upon the several Countries of the Island, and in the following Proportion. Eight hundred Cows, and eight hundred Hogs, were fixed upon the Province of *Conacht*, and appointed to be sent in annually upon the first Day of *November*; five hundred Clokes or Mantles, and five hundred Cows, were to be supplied from the Country of *Tyrconnel*; sixty Hogs, and sixty Loads or Tuns of Iron, was the yearly Tribute of the Inhabitants of *Tír Eogain*; one hundred and fifty Cows, and one hundred and fifty Hogs, were to be paid by the *Clana Rugbruidhe* in the Province of *Ulster*; one hundred and sixty Cows was the Contribution of the *Oirgiallachs*; three hundred Beeves, three hundred Hogs, and three hundred Loads or Tuns of Iron, were to be paid by the Province of *Leinster*; sixty Beeves, sixty Hogs, and sixty Loads or Tuns of Iron, were provided by the People of *Offery*; one hundred and fifty Pipes or Hogsheads of Wine was the Proportion of the *Danes* who inhabited the City of *Dublin*, and three hundred and sixty five Pipes or Hogsheads of Red Wine, was the yearly Tribute demanded from the *Danes* of *Limerick*. <sup>bríath bor-  
noime anyo.</sup>

The great Revenues that were paid annually into the Exchequer of this Prince, by the several Counties throughout the Island, are an evident Testimony of the Pomp and Grandeur of his royal Court at *Ceann Co-*



*Coradh*, with what Liberality and Magnificence he supported his princely Character, and how he exceeded the Munificence and State of most of his Predecessors. It would be inconsistent with the Brevity of this Chronicle, to take particular Notice of all the Virtues and Accomplishments of this *Irish* Monarch, and of the several Laws which he ordained for the Government of his Kingdom. Among the rest, what Injunctions he establish'd for regulating the Precedency of the Nobility, when they took their Places in the publick Assemblies conven'd by his Summons; of which the Curious may be thoroughly inform'd by having Recourse to the poetical Composition abovemention'd, where the several Orders are at large express'd; but it may not be improper to observe in this Place, that none, of whatever Quality, were permitted to wear Arms in the Court of this Prince, but the noble Tribe of the *Dailgais*, as the following Verses expressly testify.

*The most illustrious Tribe of Dailgais,  
Alone were honour'd with the Privilege  
Of wearing Arms when they appear'd at Court.*

*Bryen Boiroimhe* King of *Ireland*, having thus establish'd his Revenues, and recover'd by his publick Munificence and other Virtues, the ancient Character of the *Irish*, that had been declining for some Ages, resolv'd to build some Shipping, and become formidable at Sea: For this Purpose he sent a Messenger to desire *Maolmordha Mac Murchudha*, King of *Leinster*, to send him three of the longest and largest *Masts* that could be found in his Territories. The Request was immediately granted by the Provincial Prince, who order'd his Woods to be survey'd, and the fairest Trees to be cut down, and hewed by Shipwrights, and sent them to the Court of *Ceann Coradh*, and came himself to present them to the King of *Ireland*. The first of these Masts was carried by the Inhabitants of *Jobb Failge*, the second by the People of *Jobb Faolain*, and the third by *Jobb Muireadhug*. In their Way as they came through a Place call'd *Sliabh* and *Bhogug*, or as other Authors assert, at a remarkable *Bog* near the Wood where the Trees grew, there arose a violent Contest between the three Tribes, that were appointed to carry the Masts, about the Point of Precedence, and the Dis-

pute

pute was, which of those Tribes should go foremost with their Burden, and be first admitted into the Presence of the King of *Ireland*. This Controversy was carried on with great Heat and Animosity on all Sides, and at length came to the Ears of *Maolmordba* King of *Leinster*, who instead of behaving as a Neuter in the Quarrel, immediately got from his Horse and declared himself in favour of the Tribe of *Jobb Faolain*. He rushed in to the midst of the Throng, and by Force coming to the Mast that belong'd to that Tribe, he clapt his Shoulders under it as a common Bearer, and took his Share of the Burden with the rest. But in the Struggle he made to distinguish himself upon this Occasion, the *Silver Button* that kept together his rich Mantle flew off and was lost. This Mantle, worn by the King of *Leinster*, was made of the richest Silks, embroider'd in a splendid Manner with Gold and Silver, the Bottom of it was fring'd about with a Lace of inestimable Value, and had some Time ago been presented to this Prince by *Bryen Boiroimbe* King of *Ireland*.

The King of *Leinster* interposing by his Authority in this Dispute, the Tribes proceeded seditiously in their Journey, and by slow Marches arrived at *Ceann Coradh*, where they were courteously received, and were honourably rewarded by the King. The King of *Leinster* was admitted into the Court, where he was welcomed by his Sister, whose Name was *Gorm Fhlaith*, and who by her Marriage with *Bryen Boiroimbe*, was acknowledged Queen of *Ireland*. After the usual Ceremonies were past between the Brother and Sister, the King of *Leinster* desired the Queen that she would be pleased to fix a Button upon his Mantle, in the Place of one he had lost in a Dispute that arose between the Tribes that were appointed to carry the *Masts*, which he was proud of the Honour of bearing upon his Shoulders, as a Testimony of his Subjection and Obedience to her Husband the King of *Ireland*. The Queen reflecting upon the Glory of her Ancestors, who never paid Homage to any Prince in the World, (but the Monarchs of *Ireland*) was so incensed at this servile Disposition of her Brother, that she upbraided him severely for his Cowardice and Meanness of Spirit, for degenerating from the Courage and Bravery of his Family, and submitting under a Yoke that was never worn by any of her illustrious House, and by that means entailing Bondage and Slavery upon all his Posterity;

Agallam  
and Brian  
aguy Riog  
laigion.

and pulling the Mantle from his Shoulders with Indignation, she threw it into the Fire.

The King of *Leinster* was moved with this violent and bold Remonstrance from his Sister, but he suppress'd his Passion at that Time, and made no Reply; but the next Day it happen'd that *Morrrough* the Son of *Bryen*, and *Conuing* the Son of *Dunchuain* were playing at Tables, (though other Writers assert that the Confessor of St. *Caombgin* of *Glindalach* was engaged in the Game with *Morrrough*) and the King of *Leinster* stood by, but as an unfair Spectator he advis'd *Dunchuain* to make a *Point* in his Tables, which had that effect, that *Morrrough* lost the Game. This ungenerous Behaviour was so resented by the Prince of *Ireland*, that among other things deliver'd in Passion, he told the King of *Leinster* that it was by his Advice that the *Danes* lost the Battel of *Gleann Madhma*; which Charge occasion'd the King of *Leinster* to reply, that if the *Danes* were defeated by his Advice, he would soon put them in a Way to retrieve their Loss, and have full Revenge upon himself and his Father the King of *Ireland*. The Prince made Answer, that those Foreigners had been so often chastised by the *Irish* Army, that he stood in no fear from any Attempt they could make, though the King of *Leinster* was at the Head of them. *Maolmordha* immediately retired to his Chamber, and overcome with reflecting upon the Indignity he had received, he refused to eat or drink publicly, as his Custom was; and left the Prince of *Ireland* should find Means to seize upon his Person, and prevent his Return, he rose early the next Morning, and left the Court full of Indignation and Desire of Revenge, which he resolv'd upon the first Opportunity to put in Execution.

do Riog  
laigion an-  
ro rē.

The King of *Leinster* was soon missing, and *Bryen Boiromhe* considering that he was gone without the Ceremony of taking Leave, was resolv'd if possible by fair Means to induce him to return; and for that purpose he dispatch'd a Messenger after him, to desire he would come back to *Ceann Coradh*, and receive a Present from the King of *Ireland*, which he had provided as an Acknowledgment for his past Services. The Messenger overtook the King of *Leinster* upon the East Side of the River *Shannon* near *Killaloe*, and having deliver'd his Message from his Master, *Maolmordha* in his

passion struck him violently thrice upon the Head with a Cane he had in his Hand, by which means he fractured his Skull. The Name of this Messenger was *Cogaran*, who by reason of his Wound was obliged to be carried back to *Ceann Coradh* in a Litter; from this unfortunate Person *Jobb Cogaran*, in the Province of *Munster*, receiv'd its Name. Upon his return relating the cruel Circumstances of his Usage, the household Troops desired leave to pursue the King of *Leinster*, and bring him to answer for this barbarous Treatment of the King's Messenger, who represented the King, and therefore it reflected upon his Majesty's Honour, to permit an Indignity of this Nature to pass unpunish'd. But the King of *Ireland* considering that *Malmodha* had received an Affront in his Palace against the Laws of Hospitality, he appeased the Fury of his Guards, and told them he would chastise the Insolence of the King of *Leinster* at his own Doors, and so permitted him to make his Escape, and to return with Safety into his own Province.

Immediately upon his Arrival the King of *Leinster* summon'd a Convention of the principal Nobility and Estates of his Country, and representing the Usage he received at the Court of *Ceann Coradh*, and relating the Indignity of the Action in the most aggravating Circumstances, the whole Assembly came instantly into a Resolution to join the Power of the *Danes*, and to fall upon the King of *Ireland*; which Design was soon after executed in the Battel of *Chuin Tarf*, as will be particularly mention'd in the Course of this History.

do 2105  
1415 10n, 7 da  
7 a17 lib an  
10 75.

It must be observ'd in this Place that *Bryen Boirombe*, King of *Ireland*, had so much at Heart the Honour of his Country, that by his Authority he expell'd all the *Danes* throughout the Island, except such as inhabited the Cities of *Dublin*, *Wexford*, *Waterford*, *Cork*, and *Limerick*, whom he permitted to remain in the Country for the Benefit of Trade; for these Foreigners were a mercantile People, and by Importation supplied the Kingdom with Commodities that serv'd both for Pleasure and Use, and by this Means were a publick Advantage to the whole Nation; The King of *Leinster* determin'd to prosecute his Design, and for that purpose he dispatch'd his Messengers to the King of *Denmark*, to desire the Assistance of Auxiliary Forces

  
 ceaplof Ri-  
 ogh laighiñ  
 ceafa ho  
 Riogh luclan

against the King of *Ireland*, who had erected a Tyranny in the Island, and used the *Danes* with great Barbarity, and forc'd them to abandon their Possessions in the Country. The *Danish* King complied with his Solicitation, and selecting a choice Body of his Army, consisting of twelve thousand Men, he plac'd them under the Command of two of his Sons, *Carolus Cnutus* and *Andrew*, who safely arriv'd with them at the Port of *Dublin*.

The King of *Leinster* having received this foreign Aid, he sent a Herald to *Bryen Boiroidmbe*, to challenge him to fight him at *Chuantarf*: By this Time the King of *Ireland* had Intelligence of the Landing of the *Danes*, which News not only surpris'd the Court of *Ceann Coradhb*, but the whole Kingdom was alarm'd, as dreading the Consequences of a War, which had so terrible an Aspect, and might be attended with an Issue fatal to the Peace and Liberty of the Island. But the Heart of *Bryen* was a Stranger to Fear, and therefore he accepted of the Challenge, and collected all the Force he was able, to repel this formidable Conspiracy of Natives and Foreigners, and reduce the State to its pristine Tranquillity; for this Purpose he muster'd in the first Place the Provincial Troops of *Munster* and *Conacht*, which consisted of a Number of martial Clans, among whom were the Posterity of *Fiachadh Muilleathan* with all their Dependents. The Posterity of *Cormac Cas* rose in Defence of their Country, which were branch'd out into several Families, *Jobh Bloid*, *Jobh Caisin*, *Clann Aongusa Cinnathrach*, *Cineal Baobh*, *Cineal Cuallachta*, *Cinneal Failbhe*, and *Clan Eachach*, with *Ceallach* Son of *Dubhgin*, *Clan Cuilleain*, *Meanmain* the Son of *Affiodha*, Son of *Sioda*, Son of *Maolchuithe*, *Cineal Fearmach* with *Maolmeadha*, Son of *Baodan*. There came likewise to the Support of publick Liberty the Sons of *Kennedy* the Son of *Lorcan*, whose Names were *Dunchuain*, *Eichiaruinn*, *Aunluan*, *Lachtna*, *Cofgrach*, *Lorcan Seanachan*, *Ogan*, *Maolruadhna*, and *Aingidh*; *Morrough* the Prince of *Ireland* was resolv'd to distinguish himself in this Expedition, and took with him his Son *Turlough* and his five Brothers, *Teige*, *Donough*, *Daniel*, *Connor* and *Flann*; The Sons of *Dunchuain*, the Son of *Kennedy*, voluntarily offer'd their Service to the King of *Ireland*; their Names were *Lunargan*, *Ceilliochair*, *Kennedy*, *Fiangalach* and *Jonmrachtrach*. *Eochaidh* the



the Son of *Jonmrachtach* and *Dubbgin*, the Son of *Eochaidh* and *Beolan*, appear'd at the Head of their Friends, Relations and Dependents, to fight for the common Cause against the King of *Leinster*, who conspired with a foreign Power to bring Slavery upon his Country. The King of *Ireland* was supported likewise by the Assistance of *Teige*, the Son of *Morrourgh O Kelly*, King of *O Maine*, who had raised a strong Body of Men out of the Province of *Conacht*, and appeared at the Head of them; and this gave Encouragement to *Maolruahdna na Paidre O Heon*, the Prince of *Aidhne*, with many others of the first Quality and Interest in their Country, to gather what Strength they were able, which amounted to a considerable Number, because of their near Relation to *Bryen Boiroimbe*, whose Mother was a Princess of that Province. *Maolfeachluin*, the deposed King of *Ireland*, muster'd all his Forces in the Country of *Meath*, and joined the whole Body of the *Irish* Army; With these Auxiliaries *Bryen Boiroimbe* began to march, and directed his Course to the Plains of *Magh Nealta*, where they found the King of *Leinster* and the *Danish* Forces, expecting his Arrival. *Morrourgh O Bryen* was appointed General of the *Momonians* and the Troops of *Conacht*; but *Maolfeachluin* the King of *Meath* drew off his Men from the *Irish* Army, and refused to be concern'd in the Engagement; for he thought to be reveng'd upon *Bryen*, who had rob'd him of the Crown of *Ireland*, and supposed that by his Desertion at so nice a Conjunction, he should infuse a Terror into the rest of the Troops, and occasion the Defeat of the whole Army. He therefore drew off with the Forces of his Country, and planted himself at a convenient Distance in expectation of the Event.

And now both Armies being drawn up in Order of Battel, the Sign was given, and the Charge began dreadfully on both Sides. The Conduct of the Officers and the Bravery of the Soldiers at first seem'd equal; there was no breaking of Ranks, for every Man stood immoveable in his Post till he fell, and was supported with the same Courage by those behind him. In this Manner the Fight continued doubtful and terrible, and Victory for some Time hover'd in Suspense over both Armies, but at last, after great Slaughter, and the most bloody Contest, pronounc'd in favour of the King of *Ireland*;

*Ireland*; for the *Danes* could not stand the Shock, but were disorder'd, which made Way for a general Rout, which soon followed; the Forces of *Leinster* were terrified by the Flight of their Auxiliaries, and so the Defeat was universal, and the *Irish* following their Blow, and animated with a Prospect of Victory, drove the Enemy out of the Field. In this Engagement, which concluded with the Loss of many brave Persons, fell the General of the *Danes*, *Carolus Cnutus* and *Andrew*, the Sons of the King of *Denmark*, whose Death was attended by the chiefest Foreigners, who inhabited the City of *Dublin*, of whom four thousand were slain in the first Charge. The unfortunate King of *Leinster*, whose Passion and Inadvertency was the first Occasion of the War, did not survive the Action of that Day, and the principal Nobility and Gentry of his Province accompanied him as a Retinue into the other World; and the Number of the *Leinster* Forces that were slain amounted to three thousand seven hundred. Nor was the Success of the Victors obtained without great Slaughter of Persons of the first Quality and Distinction, among the rest fell *Morrrough O Bryen*, and the greatest Part of the Nobility of the two Provinces of *Munster* and *Connacht*, whose Loss was followed by four thousand of the *Irish* Army who perish'd in the Action. The *Danes* were the greatest Sufferers in this Battel, but their Loss was in some Measure recompensed by the Death of *Bryen Boiroimbe* King of *Ireland*, whom they slew in their Retreat; for a Body of these Foreigners in their Flight chanc'd to pass by the royal Pavilion of the King, which when they understood, they enter'd under the Leading of *Bruadar* that was the Captain of those Runaways, and finding the King of *Ireland*, they drew upon him and slew him; but the Death of this Monarch was soon reveng'd by the *Irish* Guards, who coming into the Tent, and seeing the King dead upon the Ground, fell upon *Bruadar* and his cowardly *Danes* and cut them all to Pieces.

an data  
clauda tās  
anyo.

It may not be improper in this Place to insert a List of the Principal of the *Irish* Army, who were slain in this Engagement, which upon the best Survey stands as follows. *Turlough* the Son of *Morrrough*, the Son of *Bryen* King of *Ireland*; *Conuing* the Son of *Dunchuain*, the Son of *Kennedy*; *Mothla* the Son of *Daniel*, the Son of *Faolan*, King of *Deisie* in the Province of *Munster*;

ster; Eachaidh the Son of Dunadhaigh, King of Clan Sganlan, Niall O Cuin, and Cudoilaig the Son of Kennedy; Teige the Son of Morrough O Kelly King of Odoneat; Maine, Geibhionach the Son of Dubbagain King of Fear-tre Algeat; mions, Maolruadhna na Paire O Heyn King of Aidhne; cluana táb anso. Mac Beathaig the Son of Muireadbach, the Heir apparent in the Succession to the Kingdom of Kerry Luachbra; Daniel Mac Dermott the King of Corca Baifgin; Scanlan the Son of Cathall, King of Eoganacht Locha Leim, Daniel the Son of Eimbin, Son of Camaig; Mormor Muireadbach surnamed the Great of the Kingdom of Scotland, with many more of the Gentry of the Island, whose Names are not transmitted, who fell in this memorable Battel. This Action happen'd in the Year of our Redemption one thousand and thirty four, upon Good Friday, as the Lines of a Poem particularly mention in this Manner.

*The most renown'd Bryen Boiroidmhe  
Was slain a thousand four and thirty Years  
After the Birth of Christ.*

This Monarch lived to a venerable old Age, and lost his Life in this Engagement, after he had lived fourscore and eight Years; This Computation is recorded in the same Poem in the Verses subjoin'd.

*In the most dreadful Fight of Cluantarf  
Was slain the valiant Monarch of the Island,  
After a Life of eighty and eight Years.*

The Irish Army having obtained this signal Victory, though with the Loss of the most eminent Officers, and the principal Nobility of the Island, determin'd to break up and return home. Accordingly they began their March, and the Tribe of Dailgaise and the Posterity of Fiachadh Muilleathan, happen'd to take the same Rout and came together as far as Mullach Maifse-bodá; lúag ann. Here the Family of Fiachadh Muilleathan resolv'd Human ar-fo. to separate from the other Tribe, who were under the Conduct of Donough the Son of Bryen; but before they parted they agreed to send a Messenger to Donough, to demand his Submission, and that he would relinquish his Pretensions to the Crown of Munster, that by ancient Contract was to be alternately govern'd by both Tribes,

Tribes, they insisted farther that he should send Hostages as a Security for his Obedience, for his Father and Uncle received Hostages from them; and now they resolved to vindicate their Right, and to settle the Succession in the ancient Channel, as formerly stipulated between the two Families. *Donough* was surpris'd at this Message, and return'd for an Answer, that the Submission they paid to his Father and Uncle was involuntary, and extorted from them by Force, for the whole Nation was compell'd by Arms into Subjection and to deliver Hostages, and replied farther, that they durst not be so insolent in their Demands, if they had not taken the Advantage of his Misfortunes, and that if the brave Tribe of *Dailgais*, had not suffer'd so deeply in the last Battel, he would instead of giving up Hostages, chastise them into their Obedience, and oblige them to give him sufficient Security for their future Conduct and Submission. The Forces of *Desmond* receiving this Answer, determin'd to fall upon *Donough* unprepared as he was, and immediately stood to their Arms. The Tribe of the *Dalgais* perceiving that they were in instant Danger of being set upon, commanded that their Sick and Wounded, who were unfit for Action, should be disposed of in a strong Garrison that was on the Top of *Mullach Maisteann*, and that the third Part of the sound Forces should be left to guard and secure them from any Attempts of the Enemy, and that the remaining Body should engage the *Desmonian* Army, though superior in Number; for the Tribe of the *Dailgais*, after this Deduction, amounted to no more than a thousand complete Men, and the Enemy were full three thousand.

But the Wounded and Sick resolv'd not to be separated from their Companions, and charm'd with the Bravery of their General, agreed, notwithstanding the Anguish of their Wounds, to share in the common Event, and abide the Issue of a Battel. Accordingly they refused to be put into Garrison, and seizing their Weapons, and stopping their Wounds with Moss, they prepared for the Fight. This surprizing Courage of the *Dailgais* so astonish'd the *Desmonian* Army, that they desisted from their Pretensions, and withdrew their Forces, and continued their March homewards; the *Dailgais* likewise directed their Course towards *Abby*, that stands upon the Bank of the River *Bearow*, and refreshed

do énoi af  
dailgear  
anro 7c.

refreshed themselves with Drinking the Water of that Stream.

But this illustrious Tribe met with new Difficulties in their Return, for *Donough Mac Giolla Patrick*; that was King of *Offery*, having raised a considerable Army of his own Subjects and the People of *Leinster*; resolv'd to hinder the March of the *Dailgis*; and oppose their Journey through any Part of his Territories: for this Purpose he sent out Scouts and Spies to attend the Motions of this Tribe, and to bring him Intelligence of every Day's March, since they began their Journey from the Bartel of *Chuantarf*. The King of *Offery* had conceived an invincible Hatred against the *Dailgis*, because *Bryen Boiroimbe* had made his Father Prisoner, and kill'd many of his Subjects; and therefore he thought that it was seasonable for him at this Time to take Revenge for the Indignities his Father had received, which he propos'd to accomplish by harassing the *Dailgis* and cutting them off in their Return; but before he began Hostilities he sent a Messenger to *Donough*, the General of that Tribe, to *Athy*, where he was incamp'd, to demand Hostages from him as Security that he would not commit any Outrages in passing through his Country; or if he refus'd, the King of *Offery* would oppose his March and prevent his Return; *Donough* received this insolent Demand with Scorn and Indignation, and instead of complying, return'd for an Answer, that he was amazed at the Baseness of the King of *Offery*, for taking Advantage of the Distress of his Army; but notwithstanding his Men were fatigued by their long Journey, he would decide the Dispute with him in a pitch'd Battel, and give him ample Satisfaction; and told the Messenger withal, that it was the greatest Misfortune of his whole Life to be insulted by *Mac Giolla Patrick*, whom he ever despis'd as below his Notice; but now his Circumstances were so chang'd, as to put him under the Contempt of a cowardly Prince, who had the Insolence to demand Hostages, or to challenge him into the Field, where he did not doubt to make him feel the Force of his Arms, and of his courageous Followers, who were justly esteem'd invincible. The Messenger, instead of returning the Answer, presumed to dissuade *Donough* from his Design of fighting, and insisted that his Men were in no Capacity to engage with the Forces of his Master, whose Army was fresh and in good Heart,



Heart, and seem'd impatient to enter into the Field. But *Donough* replied with his usual Majesty, that if the Law of Nations had not secured him from ill Treatment, he would instantly cut his Tongue out for his Insolence, and order'd him out of his Presence with this Injunction, to tell his Master that he would meet him and his Subjects of *Offery* in the Field, if he had but one Man to stand by him.

With this Answer the Messenger return'd; and *Donough* drew up his Men in Order of Battel; His Sick and Wounded he design'd to commit to the Charge of one third Part of his Army, and with the rest he resolv'd to engage the Enemy; but the wounded Soldiers, who were lying upon the Ground, immediately started up, and by the Violence of the Motion, bursting open their Wounds, they desired their General not to leave them behind, but suffer them to have a Part in the Action; and stopping their Wounds a second Time with Moss, they laid hold of their Weapons, and took their Places in their Ranks, resolv'd to assist their Companions and come off with Victory, or bravely die in the Attempt. But most of them were reduced so weak by Loss of Blood, that they could not stand upon their Legs; and to remedy this Misfortune, they desired the General, that a Number of Stakes should be cut in the neighbouring Wood and driven into the Ground: Every wounded Soldier was to be tied fast to one of these Piles, and placed regularly between two sound Men, which would have that Effect, that their sound Companions would be ashamed to fly and abandon them in that helpless Condition to the Fury of the Enemy, and therefore it would sharpen their Courage to reflect, that nothing but Victory could secure the Lives of their distress'd Friends, who would be cut off to a Man if they were not relieved by the Bravery of their fellow Soldiers. This Proposal was put in Execution, to the great Surprise of the Enemy, who judg'd that they had nothing to expect but Death or Victory.

The Army of *Leinster* and *Offery*, under the Command of *Mac Giolla Patrick*, were astonish'd at the Resolution of that martial Tribe, who were under Arms expecting the Sign of Battel. They positively refused to fight, and told the King in a mutinous Manner, that nothing but a Defeat was to be expected from the Bravery of the *Dailgais*; that the Wounded were as

eager

eager to engage as the Sound, and therefore they would not run willfully into the Jaws of Lions, who would inevitably tear them to Pieces. *Mac Giolla Patrick* was ashamed, after he had given the Challenge, to retire without fighting, and upbraiding his Army with Fear and Cowardice, insisted that they had the Advantage of Numbers, that the Enemy were but a Handful of Men, worn out with grievous Wounds and long Marches, and that the first Charge must give them Possession of Victory. But the Courage of the *Dailgais* and their unexpected Resolution, had impress'd such a Terror upon the Army of *Leinster*, that they refused absolutely to engage with such desperate Enemies; and the King fearing a general Mutiny and Defection, was obliged to give over his Design, and content himself with falling upon the *Dailgais*, and by constant Skirmishes and Stratagems of War, to cut them off in their Retreat. And this Method was so successfully executed, that he annoy'd the *Dailgais*, and destroy'd more of their Men than he could possibly have done in a pitch'd Battel. The Conduct and Experience of *Donough* was remarkable in making good his Retreat, and securing his Men against the sudden Attacks of the Enemy, but notwithstanding all his Diligence and Caution, he brought back into their own Country no more of that valiant Tribe than eight hundred and fifty; for a great Number perish'd in the bloody Fight of *Cluantarf*, and one hundred and fifty were cut off in their Return by *Mac Giolla Patrick* King of *Offerry*.

The memorable Battel of *Cluantarf* makes such a Figure in the *Irish* History, that it may not be improper, over and above what has been said, to take Notice of a particular Description of that Fight that was sent to *Clan Colman*, by *Maolseachluin* the Son of *Daniel* King of *Meath*, a Month after the Engagement. "I never, says he, beheld with my Eyes nor read in History, an Account of a sharper and bloodier Fight than this memorable Action; Nor if an Angel from Heaven would descend and relate the Circumstances of it, could you without difficulty be induced to give Credit to it: I withdrew with my Troops under my Command, and was no otherwise concern'd than a Spectator, and stood at no greater Distance than the breadth of a fallow Field and a Ditch. When both the powerful Armies engaged,

do tugirg  
 data eluand  
 t3b anyo.

and grapled in close Fight, it was dreadful to behold  
 how the Swords glitter'd over their Heads, being struck  
 by the Rays of the Sun, which gave them an Appearance  
 of a numerous Flock of white *Sea Gulls* flying in the  
 Air; the Strokes were so mighty, and the Fury of the  
 Combatants so terrible, that great Quantities of Hair  
 torn or cut off from their Heads by their sharp Weapons,  
 was driven far off by the Wind, and their Spears  
 and Battel Axes were so encumber'd with Hair, cemented  
 together with clotted Blood, that it was scarce possible  
 to clear or bring them to their former Brightness.

It was observ'd before that *Maolfeachluin*, with his  
 Forces rais'd out of the Country of *Meath*, though  
 he join'd the Army of *Bryen Boiroimbe*, as if he design'd  
 to fight in Defence of his Cause, yet when he came  
 to the Field of Battel was so influenc'd by the *Danes*,  
 that he withdrew, and at a Distance was a Spectator of  
 the Fight. Nor did *Cineal Eogain*, though he offer'd  
 his Assistance to the King of *Ireland*, bear a Part in  
 the Action of that Day; for that Monarch had such  
 Confidence in his own personal Courage, and the  
 Bravery of his Army, that he told them, since he had  
 fought so many Battels, and obtained so many Victories,  
 without their Auxiliary Troops, he would not lay  
 himself under an Obligation at present, but would  
 take the Success or the Defeat of that Day wholly upon  
 himself.

A. D. 1039. *Maolfeachluin* again recover'd the Crown of *Ireland*,  
 and was the succeeding Monarch after the Death of  
*Bryen Boiroimbe*, who was slain in the Battel of *Cluantarf*,  
 and govern'd the Island nine Years, though some  
 Authors place ten Years to his second Reign. This  
 Prince, in Conjunction with *O Neill* and *O Maoldorwig*,  
 led a formidable Army to the City of *Dublin*, which  
 he surpris'd, and after it was plunder'd by the Soldiers  
 he set it on Fire. The *Danish* Inhabitants of that City,  
 who escap'd the Battel of *Cluantarf*, and were dispos'd  
 of their Houses united in a Body and march'd to  
*Jobb Cinnfiolach*, which they rifled and burnt to the  
 Ground; in this Expedition they ravag'd the Country  
 with Fire and Sword, kill'd multitudes of People, and  
 carried off many Prisoners. Soon after *Maolfeachluin*  
 King of *Ireland* enter'd the Province of *Ulster* in a  
 hostile Manner, and when he had plunder'd the Coun-

try he made Slaves of the Inhabitants. Near the same Time *Donagan* the King of *Leinster*, with many of his principal Nobility, were barbarously murder'd in the Palace of *Teige O Ryan*, King of *Ondrona* by *Donough Mac Giolla Patrick*. About this Time died the celebrated *Mac Liag*, who was the most eminent Poet in the whole Island. *Maolseachluin* not long after led his Army into the Country of *Offery*, and kill'd *Dungal Mac Giolla Patrick Mac Donough*, and a great Number of his Subjects, and such as escaped the Slaughter were made Prisoners. There is a Tradition, but upon what Authority is uncertain, that this *Irish* Monarch laid the Foundation of *St. Mary's* Abby, in the City of *Dublin*, in the Year of our Redemption one thousand forty five; but of this we are assured, that in his last Reign, he followed the Example of his Predecessor, the great *Bryen Boiroimbe*, and was a Prince of exemplary Goodness and Devotion in the latter Part of his Life. He repair'd decay'd Churches and Monasteries, and re-establish'd the publick Schools that were destroy'd by the civil Wars and brought to Ruin; and it is asserted with great Truth, in the Annals of his Reign, that he maintained three hundred poor Scholars at his own Expence.

In the Reign of *Maolseachluin*, King of *Ireland*, it was, that *Sitric* the Son of *Humphry* struck out the Eyes of *Bran* the Son of *Maolmordba*, Son of *Murchadba*, in the City of *Dublin*, after he had govern'd the Province of *Leinster* for two Years. The *Danes* who inhabited *Dublin* under the Conduct of *Sitric*, plunder'd *Ceananinus* in a cruel Manner, kill'd multitudes of People, and forc'd many more into Slavery. About this Time *Ugair* the Son of *Dunlaing*, who was King of *Leinster* for three Years, encounter'd the *Danes* of *Dublin*, and overthrew them in a pitch'd Battel. Soon after this Defeat *Sitric* the Son of *Fombair*, who was Governor of the *Danes* of *Waterford*, was kill'd by the King of *Offery*. Nor did *Maolseachluin* King of *Ireland* long survive, for he died at *Cro Inis Locha Hainninn*. After the Decease of this Prince, some of the Chronicles of the Island give an Account of many Monarchs in Succession to the Throne of *Ireland*; but it is a more probable Opinion, that after the Death of this King, till the *English* arrived, there was no absolute Monarch of the Country, though there were several who assumed to themselves

~ themselves the Name of Kings. The Island was govern'd afterwards by petty Princes, as may be collected from the Testimony of a Poet, who has these Lines.

*After the Death of Maolseachluin,  
The famous Son of Daniel, Son of Donough,  
There was no Monarch in the Irish Throne.*

A. D. 1048. *Donough*, the Son of *Bryen Boiroidmbe*, succeeded *Maolseachluin* in the Government of *Leath Modha*, and had likewise under his Command the greatest Part of the *Irish* Dominions. This Prince enjoy'd a long Reign of fifty Years, as *Florence Mac Carty* asserts, in his general History of *Ireland*, which Computation is supported by the Authority of other Chronicles, which allow him the same Time. Some Writers contradict this Opinion, and place to this Prince no longer a Reign than twelve Years; but the Account of *Florence Mac Carty* deserves the Preference, for he agrees with the Number of Years which pass'd from the Death of *Bryen Boiroidmbe*, to the first Arrival of the *English*, and therefore the last Computation dissenting from that Number, is not to be believed or allowed of.

About this Time it was that *Harolt Conan*, by others call'd *Harott Coran*, fled for Refuge into *Ireland*, where he received honourable Support and Protection, becoming his Grandeur and high Quality. Many memorable Transactions happen'd in the Reign of *Donough* King of *Ireland*. In his Time *Humphry* the Son of *Sitric*, who was Commander of the *Danes* throughout the Island, was taken Prisoner by *Mahon O Riagan* King of *Breag*, and was obliged to purchase his Freedom at no less Expence than two hundred Cows and twenty Horses. In the Year of our Redemption one thousand seventy three, *Flathbheartach* or *Flaberry O Neill*, undertook a Pilgrimage to *Rome*, which he accomplish'd: Soon after *Teige O Lorcain*, King of *Cinsealach*, departed the present Life at *Glen da Loch*; and about the same Time died *Gormflaith*, the Daughter of *Morough Mac Flinn* King of *Leinster*, who was Mother to *Sitric* the Son of *Humphry*, Commander of the *Danes* in *Ireland*. This Lady was likewise the Mother of *Donough* the Son of *Bryen Boiroidmbe*. Near this Time *Arthurbcileach O Ruorke*, King of *Breifne*, committed

do Eudyr-  
glab Ainla-  
oib mae Si-  
znie anyo  
76.




great Ravages, and plunder'd the Church of *Cluain Ferta Breanon*; but was chastised the same Day for this sacrilegious Action by *Donough* King of Ireland, who slew him, and destroy'd most of his Army. The City of *Waterford* was pillag'd and ruined by *Diarmuid Mac Maol Nambo*, who after he had secured the Plunder set the Town on Fire and burnt it to the Ground. This *Diarmuid* was at the same Time King of *Leinster*. *Cluain Mac Nois* was soon after miserably spoil'd, and afterwards burnt by the People of *Conmaicne*; but their Barbarity was sorely punish'd by the Hand of God, who sent a pestilential Distemper among them, which occasioned a great Mortality, and the Infection reach'd their Cattel and carried off whole Drovers.

In the Reign of this Irish Prince, *Carthach* (the Son of *Justin*, King of *Eoganacht Casbel*;) was burnt to Death with many Persons of the first Quality, in a House that was set on Fire by *Mac Longargain* the Son of *Dunchuain*. Soon after this Accident *Donough* the Son of *Bryen Boiroimbe* was deposed from his Government by the Estates of the Kingdom, because he was concern'd in the Murder of *Terge*, a Prince of great Hopes; who was his elder Brother. After his Expulsion from the Throne he was contented to lead a private Life; and resolv'd to spend the remaining Part of his Days in Piety and Exercises of Devotion; and for that purpose, according to the Custom of those Times, he undertook a religious Pilgrimage to *Rome*, where he died; and was buried in *St. Stephen's Abby*.

There are some at this Day, who assert that the Families of the *Powers*, the *Plunkets*, and *Enslaces* are descended lineally from the Posterity of this *Donough* Son of *Bryen Boiroimbe*; but I could never find any Authority to justify this Opinion, either in Prose or Verse, excepting the Composition of a modern Poet of a late Age, call'd *Maolin Mac Bruadeadba*, in a Poem which begins with these Words, *Cuirfiod Cumaoin ar Chloimail*. It must be observ'd in this Place that the Foundation of this Opinion depends upon an idle fictitious Story, of no Truth or Probability, concerning what happen'd to this *Donough* after he arrived at *Rome*. The Legend says, that this Prince when he came to that City got Access to a Lady, who was the Daughter of an Emperor, whom he enjoy'd, and became the Father of a Son; and from this Son, it seems, descended the three

don mac  
do sonas  
mac byidin  
boimie a  
gurt do St  
cile mac  
Mlaois

 Families abovemention'd. But in Opposition to this Story it must be consider'd that *Donough* was fourscore and eight Years of Age before he undertook that Pilgrimage, and it is perfectly incredible that a young Princess could be disposed to receive into her Arms a Pilgrim of so advanc'd Years; neither is it to be supposed that if the Lady were inclin'd, *Donough*, who came thither for Devotion, would commit such Wickedness, or gratifie her Desires upon the most importunate Solicitation; and these Reasons, I presume, are sufficient to destroy the Pretensions of these three Families, since it is morally impossible that *Donough* should have a Son at *Rome* by an Emperor's Daughter, from whom they value themselves for being descended. And as an unanswerable Testimony upon this Occasion, it must be observ'd, that the Book call'd *Leabhar Andala*, that was transcrib'd out of the Book of *Mac Eogan*, about four hundred Years ago, as near as can be computed, asserts positively that *Donough* the Son of *Bryen Boiroimbe*, after he had finish'd his Pilgrimage at *Rome*, took upon him a religious Habit in *St Stephen's Abby*, where he spent the remaining Part of his Life, in Piety and Exercises of Devotion. Besides it appears evidently to any one who peruses the Chronicles of *Ireland* that are written by *English* Authors, that upon the first Arrival of the *English* in that Country, *Robert le Poer* was among the first that landed in the Island, from whom the Families of the *Powers* and the *Eustaces* originally sprung; as for the Family of the *Plunkets* the same Writers assert, that they are originally of foreign Extraction, and descended from the *Danes*, and therefore have no Claim to a Descent from the ancient *Irish*, and by Consequence not from *Donough* the Son of *Bryen*, King of *Ireland*.

A. D. 1098. *Turlough* was the succeeding Monarch; He was the Son of *Téige*, Son of *Boiroimbe*, and govern'd the Province of *Munster*, and the greatest Part of the Island, for the Space of twelve Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Morling* the Daughter of *Giolla Bride*, King of *Cineal Fiachadh* and *Fear Ceall*. Many Transactions of Importance happen'd in the Reign of this King; *Connor* the Son of *Maolseachluin*, the Son of *Floinn*, was murder'd inhumanly by his own Brother, whose Name was *Morough*; *Connor* was at that Time King of *Meath*, and his Head was seized by Force by *Turlough*, and removed

moved from *Cluain Mac Naois* to *Ceann Coradh*, in Order to be interr'd upon the Friday before *Easter*: but the Day after the Head was miraculously convey'd back to *Cluain Mac Naois*, by the Prayers (which is scarce credible) of the pious *Ciaran*.

In the Reign of *Turlough* King of *Ireland*, *William Rufus* King of *England* had Occasion for Timber to build the Roof of *Westminster Hall*; this was about the Year of our Redemption one thousand ninety seven; and not contented with the Wood that grew in his own Dominions, he sent a Messenger to the King of *Ireland*, to desire leave that he might be furnish'd out of his Country with a Quantity sufficient for the Work. In the preceding Year a Bishop, whose Name was *Malchus*, was consecrated by *Anselm* Archbishop of *Can-*  
*terbury*. About this Time died *Dearbhforguill* the  
 Daughter of *Teige Mac Giolla Patrick*, that was married  
 to *Turlough* King of *Ireland*; and he did not long  
 survive, but was soon after removed to another Life.

do oimnis an  
 beab ear-  
 buis a-  
 broictige

*Mortough* may be properly said to succeed to the Crown of *Ireland*; He was the Son of *Teige*, the Son of *Bryen Boiroomhe*, and was the King of *Leath Modha* and the principal Part of the Island, and sat upon the Throne twenty Years. The Mother of this Prince was *Ceallrach* the Daughter of *Vi Eine*, who also had another Son call'd *Roger O Connor*. *Mortough* was a Prince of great Virtue and exemplary Piety; he it was that bestowed *Cashel* upon the Clergy, as a Testimony of his Munificence and divine Charity, in the first Year of his Reign, and confirm'd it to them in the Year of our Redemption one thousand one hundred and eleven.

A. D. 1110.

This *Irish* Monarch summon'd a general Assembly of all the Nobility and Clergy of his Kingdom, and order'd them by his royal Summons to meet him at a Place call'd *Fiadh Mac Naongusa*. The Clergy of the Island, who appear'd in that Convention, consisted of the Persons following; *Maolmuire O Dunain* Archbishop of the Province of *Munster*, *Ceallach Mac Hugh* the Converb of *St Patrick*, and Vicar General to the Primate of *Ardmach*, eight other Bishops of inferior Dioceses, three hundred and sixty Priests and Priors, one hundred and forty Deacons, and many other religious Persons of all Orders. In this Convention were many wholesome Laws and Regulations establish'd, not only for the Government of the Clergy, but of the Laity likewise,

†

throughout

don lion dno  
eaybug a-  
gur eleine  
cainne an-  
yo 7e.

throughout the Kingdom; soon after *Maolmuire O Du-  
nagain* Archbishop of the Province of *Munster* was tran-  
slated to a better Life.

Another general Convention was summon'd in the Reign  
of *Mortough* King of *Ireland*, in the Year of our Redemp-  
tion one thousand one hundred and fifteen, by *Giolla Eaf-  
kuig* Bishop of *Limerick*, who was then Legate of *Ire-  
land*, and the first Person in Authority over the whole  
Assembly. The old Book of *Cluain Aidnach* in *Leix*,  
gives a particular Account of this synodical Meeting,  
and records the principal Transactions that were deba-  
ted and agreed upon in that Assembly. This Treatise  
relates that in that Convocation it was ordained, that  
there should be twelve Episcopal Sees fix'd in *Leath  
Modha*, which contain'd the Southern half of the Island,  
and that the same Number of Bishops should be ap-  
pointed in *Leath Cuinn*, which included the Northern  
half: It was agreed likewise that two Bishops should be  
settled in the Country of *Meath*. In this Convention  
the Revenue of the Clergy and the Church Lands  
were confirm'd to the several Bishops of the Island, for  
their Maintenance and Support of the episcopal Cha-  
racter, which Lands were to be exempted from Tri-  
bute and Chief Rents and other publick Contributions,  
and so remain in that State of Freedom and Indepen-  
dency for ever. At this Time the Boundaries of all  
the Diocesess in that Island were distinctly laid out, and  
it was establish'd that in the Division of *Leath Cuinn*,  
there should be twelve Bishops besides the Primate, five  
were fix'd in the Province of *Ulster*, five in the Pro-  
vince of *Conacht*, and two in the Country of *Meath*,  
which make up the whole Number. The Primate  
had the Government of *Ardmaach*, and exercised a spi-  
ritual Jurisdiction over the whole Kingdom, over *Clo-  
char*, *Andsratha*, *Derry*, *Coinire*, and *Dun da Leath  
Glas*.

do cetaoip  
eaybug  
gacaybug  
a leat 290-  
so anjo.

The Seats of Residence for the Bishops of *Meath* were  
*Dambliaig* and *Cluain Joraird*. The Bishops in the Pro-  
vince of *Conacht* resided at *Tuam da Gualann*, *Cluain Fre-  
arta*, *Brenoian*, *Conga*, *Kilala* and *Ard Carna*. The Pala-  
ces of the Bishops in *Munster* were first *Cashel*, where  
the Archbishop of *Leath Modha* resided, *Lismore*, or  
*Waterford*, *Cork*, *Rathmoigh*, *Deisgeirt*, *Limerick*, *Killa-  
loe*, and *Emlioch Jobhair*; these seven Seats were ap-  
pointed for the Bishops of *Munster* in that Convention.



In the Province of *Leinster* were ordain'd five Sees, viz. *Killcuillin*, *Laghlín*, *Kildare*, *Glean da Loch*, and *Wexford*, otherwise call'd *Fearna*, which five Sees being added to the seven in the Province of *Munster* above-mention'd, make up the Number of twelve, ordain'd in the Division of the Island distinguish'd by the Name of *Leath Mòdha*. The Reason why the See of *Dublin* is not taken Notice of in this Place, is because the Bishop of that Diocese generally received his Consecration from the Hands of the Archbishop of *Canterbury* in *England*. *Hammer* the Historian very unjustly asserts in his Chronicle, that the Clergy of *Ireland* were under the spiritual Jurisdiction of the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, from the Time of *Augustine* the Monk to the Reign of King *Henry* the Second; but he brings no Evidence to confirm this Opinion, nor is it possible for him to prove that the *Irish* Clergy paid Obedience to any of the Prelates of *Canterbury*, except to *Lanfranc*, *Ranulph* and *Anselm*; nor at that Time did the Clergy in general throughout the Kingdom, pay Obedience to these Archbishops, but only such as lived in *Dublin*, *Warrerford*, and *Limerick*, that originally descended from the *Danes*, or else were of the *Norman* Race, who were derived from the same Extraction. And as a Testimony not to be denied upon this Occasion, I appeal to the Writings of that Prodigy of Learning and Industry, Archbishop *Usher*, who asserts the same upon good Authority, and confutes this *English* Historian beyond a Possibility of Reply. It appears therefore evidently that the Number of Bishops in the Province of *Munster* were six, and that six likewise were appointed over the Province of *Leinster*, and all of them were under the spiritual Power of the Archbishop of *Cashel*, as Arch Prelate of *Leath Mòdha*, in Imitation of the Form of Government establish'd in the State, which whoever pleases may be fully inform'd of by turning back to the Reign of *Lao-gaire* King of *Ireland*.

This *Irish* Synod, call'd the Convocation of *Rath Breasail*, determin'd the Boundaries of the several Dioceses, and fix'd them in the Manner following. The Diocese of the Bishop of *Ardmach* extended from *Sliabh* or Mount *Breag* to *Cuill Cianachtra*, and from *Biorr* to *Abhain More*. The Diocese of the Bishop of *Glochair* extended from *Abhainmore* to *Gabhail Luim*, and from *Sliabh* or Mount *Biaha* to Mount *Larga*. The Diocese

Carth do éle-  
in eipion do  
dnd loila-  
nab.

do fãceda  
gabairburg  
an eipin 7  
dãceonan-  
cãf anoye.



of *Ard Sreatha* extended from Mount *Larga* to *Carn Glas*, and from *Loch Craoi* to *Binn Fiobhne*. The Diocese of the Bishop of *Derry* extended from *Easruadh* to *Srubb Broinn*, and from thence to *Carn Glas*. The Diocese of the Bishop of *Cuinire* extended from *Binn Fiobhne* to *Torbuirg*, and from *Port Murbuilg* to *Hollorba*, and to *Cuan Snamba Haighne*, and from *Gloin Riogh* to *Colbha Gearmann*. The Diocese of the Bishop of *Dun da Leath Glas* is not laid out in the Journal of this Convention. The Diocese of the Bishop of *Damhliag* extended from Mount *Breag* to *Carn Dun Cuair*, and from *Lochan na Himrime* Eastwards to the Sea. The Diocese of *Cluain Hioraird* extended from *Clochan* Eastwards to the *Shannon*, and from *Vir Coilte* to *Cluain Conaire*. The Diocese of *Cluain Fearta* extended from the *Shannon* to *Buirinn*, and from *Eachtighe* to *Suca*. The Diocese of *Tuam* extended from *Suca* to *Ard Carna*, and from *Athán Tearmon* to the *Shannon*. The Diocese of *Conga*, extended from *Abhain O Broin* in the North to *Neamhbhain*, and from *Athán Tearmon* Westwards to *Killala*. The Diocese of *Killala* extended from *Neimhbhin* to *Easruadh*, and from *Cill Ard Bille* to *Srathán Fearainn*. The Diocese of *Ard Carna* extended from *Ard Carna* to *Sliabh an Jaruinn*, and from *Ceis Corrainn* to *Huircuilen*. If the Clergy of the Province of *Conacht* will allow of these Boundaries, it will be a Satisfaction to me, but if they are displeased, yet it must be granted that there were but five Bishopricks in that Province.

The Diocese of the Archbishop of *Cashel* extended from Mount *Eibhlinne* to the River *Siuir*, and from *Cnamb Coill* by *Tipperary* to *Grein Airbha*, that is to *Crois Greine* Westwards. The Diocese of *Lismore* or *Waterford* extended from *Mileadbach* upon the Bank of the River *Bearrow*, to the Meeting of the three Streams of *Corke*, and from the River *Siuir* Southwards to the Sea. The Diocese of *Cork* extended from *Cork* to *Carn Vi Neid*, and from the *Black Water* Southwards to the Sea. The Diocese of *Rath Maighe Deisgirt* extended from *Baoi Bearra* to *Ceann Meara*, and from *Feil to Dairbhre*. The Diocese of *Killaloe* extended from *Slighe Dala* to *Leim Congcullán*, and from Mount *Eachtighe* to Mount *Vidhe an Riogh*, and from thence to Mount or *Glean Caoin*. The Diocese of *Limerick* extended from *Maolcearn* Westwards to *Ath an Coinne Lodain*,

*Lodain*, and to *Lach Guir*, and to *Lathach More*, and from *Aidhne* Westwards, and *Ard Patrick* Southwards, and *Beallach Feabhrat* and *Tullach* inclusive; *Feil* and *Tainbeart* Westwards, and *Cuinche* in *Thumond Crofs* in Mount *Vidhe an Riogh*, and *Dubb Abbain*; The Journal of that Convention adds this Sanction in this Place, *Whoever exceeds these Boundaries acts contrary to the Will of God, and the Intention of St. Peter and St. Patrick, and all the Christian Churches.* The Cathedral of this Diocese is *St. Mary's Church* in *Limerick*. The Diocese of *Emly Jobhair*, extended from *Cluain Cain* to the *Black Water*, and from *Cnamb Coill* by *Tipperary* to *Abbain Alla*. The Diocese of *Kilkenny* extended from Mount *Bladhma* to *Mileadbach*, and from *Grein Airb* to Mount *Mairge*. The Diocese of *Leith Glin* extended from Mount *Bladhma* to Mount *Vidhe* in the Province of *Leinster*, and from Mount *Mairge* to *Beallach Carcrach*, and from *Beallach Mugna* to *Teach Moling* and to *Natearmann*. The Diocese of *Kildare* extended from *Ros Fionglaise* to the *Naas* in *Leinster*, and from thence to *Cumar Cluana Hioraird*, and to the Mounts *Glin da Loch*. The Diocese of *Glin da Loch* extends from *Grianog* to *Breigeirinn*, to the *Naas*, and to *Reachroinn*. The Diocese of *Fearns* or *Wexford*, extends from *Beigeirn* to *Mileadbach*, on the West of the River *Bearow*, and from Mount *Vidhe* in the Province of *Leinster* Southwards to the Sea. The Clergy of the Province of *Leinster*, I presume, will allow of this Method of laying out the Boundaries of the several Dioceses; nor is it to be disputed that there were any more than five Bishopricks in that Province. The famous Convocation of *Rath Breasfal* and the twenty five Bishops that sat in that Assembly, left the Blessing of God and their own likewise upon the succeeding Bishops, in the twenty five Dioceses above mention'd, who should support and vindicate the Orders and Laws that were ordained in that Synod, with Regard to the Limits of their several Bishopricks, and invoc'd dreadful Imprecations upon such who presumed to violate those Injunctions, or disputed the Authority of that venerable Synod.

It is observ'd by *Hacluit* in his Chronicle, that when *Mortough O Bryen* was possess'd of the Government of *Ireland*, the Inhabitants of the neighbouring Islands sent a Messenger to that Prince, that he would send them a Person

Person of the royal Blood to command those Isles, during the Minority of *Olanus* or *Humphry* the Son of *Godfrey*, who was apparent Heir to the Crown of those Countries. *Mortough* complied with their Request, and sent a Cousin of his own, whose Name was *Daniel*, the Son of *Teige O Bryen*, who administer'd the Government for the Space of three Years; but notwithstanding he was no more than a Viceroy over the People, he ruled with that Tyranny and despotick Power, that the Inhabitants began to suspect his Designs, and grew jealous of their Rights and Privileges, which he attempted to invade, and therefore the principal Persons of the Island deposed him from his Authority, and ignominiously sent him back into *Ireland*.

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domnail 7  
brydan ar na  
hoileidin an-  
ro 7<sup>e</sup>.

We have an Account likewise in the same Historian, that *Magnus* the Son of *Olanus*, the Son of *Arailt*, that was King of *Norway*, dispatch'd Messengers to *Mortough O Bryen*, to demand his Homage and Submission; and likewise sent a Pair of his Shoes, which he commanded him to carry upon his Shoulders, as an evident Testimony of his Subjection. *Mortough*, dreading an Invasion from these Foreigners, we are inform'd, obey'd, which servile Compliance of his was so resented by the Nobility and the chief Persons of his Dominions, that they upbraided him with Cowardice and a Meanness of Spirit, for degenerating from the Courage of his Ancestors, who abhor'd such abject Behaviour, and would have chastised with the Sword the haughty *Dane* for the Insolence of his Demands. But *Mortough* was not in the least incensed by this Remonstrance, and replied with great Mildness, that he would rather advance the Happiness and Security of his Country by his Submission, than expose to Ruin and Desolation the least Province in his Dominions.

teaf mag-  
ney moir  
Thee moe  
laelan an  
eipin.

But *Magnus* not satisfied with this servile Homage from *Mortough*, fitted out a numerous Fleet, which he man'd with *Danes* and *Norwegians*, and set Sail for the *Irish* Coasts; his Design was to plunder and destroy the Country, and to harass it in a dreadful Manner. The People he determin'd to put to the Sword without Mercy, and to take ample Revenge upon the *Irish*, for all the Victories they had obtain'd over the *Danes*, and for driving them out of the Island. And so impatient was this cruel *Dane* to put his Resolution in Execution, that he landed with his Wife, a few of his Nobility,

bility, and a small Number of Soldiers, before the Body of his Fleet approach'd the Shore and set the Country about him on Fire. But the *Irish* were prepared to receive him, for they had laid Ambushes to cut him off before the rest of his Forces arrived, and surpris'd him with that Success that *Magnus* and all his Men were destroy'd. When the rest of the Fleet arriv'd, they were so astonish'd with the Misfortune of their Captain and their Companions, that they made all the Sail they could homewards, and bid a final adieu to the Island.

*Mortough O Bryen*, King of *Ireland*, fell sick of a languishing Disease, which attended him for five Years, and then concluded his Life and Reign. He died at *Ardmach*, and made a most religious Exit; His Body was buried in the great Church at *Killaloe*, in the Year of our Redemption one thousand one hundred and thirty.

*Turlough* the Son of *Roger O Connor*, succeeded to the A. D. 1130. Government of the greatest Part of the Island, and sat upon the Throne twenty Years. This Prince distinguish'd his Reign by many memorable Actions; among the rest he erected three remarkable Bridges in the Province of *Conacht*, the Bridge of *Athlone*, and the Bridge of *Ath Chrochta*, both which stood over the *Shannon*, and the Bridge of *Dun Leogha* upon the *Suca*. This Monarch enter'd the Territories of *Munster* in an hostile Manner, and among other Devastations he plunder'd *Cashel* and *Ard Fianain*. But the Provincial Troops falling successfully upon his Rear, did great Execution, and slew *Hugh O Heyn* King of *Fiachrach Aidhne*, and *Muireadbach O Flaherty* King of West *Conacht*, and many other Persons of the first Distinction. But this Misfortune did not discourage *Turlough* in his Designs upon that Province, for he soon repair'd the Loss he had suffer'd by recruiting his Forces, and completing his Battalions he enter'd the Country with all the Fury of an enraged Enemy, where he us'd great Cruelties, and committed inexpressible Barbarities upon the People. He reduc'd the Province under his Obedience, and as his own by Right of Conquest he divided it into two Parts; the South Division he gave to *Donough Mac Carry*, and the North he bestowed upon *Connor O Bryen*; but acting with great Policy before he fix'd them in Possession, he oblig'd them to deliver Hostages as a Security for their future Homage and Subjection.

About this Time the Church of *Cormac* at *Cashel* was consecrated, at the Performance of which Solemnity the principal Clergy and Nobility of that Kingdom were present, in the Year of our Redemption one thousand one hundred and thirty four. Soon after *Cormac Mac Carty* was barbarously murther'd by *Connor O Bryen*, who was his near Relation; and about the same Time the pious *Maolmaadhog* or *Malichias*, who was Archbishop of *Ireland* and *Scotland*, was removed to another Life.

tuirdeath-  
ac n' con-  
tab' do sul  
ag e' reada  
na 2' huan.

*Turlough O Connor* made an Attempt upon the whole Province of *Munster*, and for that purpose he collected all the Forces of *Conacht* and *Leinster*, of *Meath Teafa* and *O Ruorke*, and directed his March to *Gleann Maghair*, but there he was met by *Turlough O Bryen* and the Son of *Connor O Bryen*, attended with the Provincial Troops which consisted of three Battalions; both Armies prepared for Battel, and began the Charge with great Fury and Slaughter; for some Time the Success was doubtful, but at last favour'd *Turlough O Connor*, and the *Momonian* Troops, and the martial Tribe of the *Dailgais* receiv'd a terrible Defeat at *Moin More*, and that Tribe suffer'd inexpressible Loss in the Engagement. After this Victory *Turlough O Bryen* was banish'd to *Tir Eogain*, and *Turlough O Connor* made another Division of the Province of *Munster*, between *Teige O Bryen* and *Diarmuid* the Son of *Cormac Mac Carty*.

*Turlough O Connor*, the King of *Ireland*, did not long survive this memorable Battel; but died in the sixty eighth Year of his Age, and was interr'd with great Solemnity near the great Altar of *Ciaran* at *Chuin Mac Nois*. This Prince left to the Clergy of the Kingdom the greatest Part of his personal Estate, which consisted of five hundred and forty Ounces of Gold, forty Marks of Silver, all his Jewels, Plate, Horses, Arms, Bows, Quivers, Arrows, and all his military Equipage, and ordain'd that this Legacy of his should be divided into just Proportions, and given to the Clergy according to their several Degrees and the Orders they profess'd. The Decease of this Prince was accompanied by the Death of the most religious *Teige O Lonargain* Bishop of *Killaloe*, who expired in the Year of the Christian *Aera* one thousand one hundred and fifty.



*Mortough Mac Neill Mac Lachlun* succeeded in the Government of *Ireland*: This Prince was descended from the Posterity of *Heremon*, and commanded the greatest Part of the Island for eighteen Years. In the seventh Year of his Reign was conven'd a national Synod of the Clergy, which assembled at *Ceanannus* in the Country of *Meath*, and in the Year of our Lord one thousand one hundred fifty seven. The Design of this Convocation was to consult proper Measures for the better Propagation of the Christian Faith; for the more effectual Edification of the People, and to ordain two more Archbishops in the Island; for before there were no more than the Archbishop of *Ardmach* and *Cashel*. The principal Persons who were appointed by the Pope to preside in this Convention, were *Giolla* comthionol cleire anso 76. *Crist O Conaire*, the Bishop of *Lismore*, and the Superior of all the Monks in *Ireland*, and the Pope's Legate, and *John Papiron* one of the *Roman* Cardinals. They regulated the Dioceses throughout the Kingdom, and bestowed four *Copes* upon the four Archbishops, which was very ungrateful to the *Irish*; for they would have been better satisfied with the old Form, without the Addition of any more Archbishopricks. One of these *Copes* (call'd *Pallium* in the *Journal* of that Synod) was bestowed upon *Ardmach*, and another upon *Cashel*, which was contrary to the Will of the Clergy of *Ardmach* and *Dun da Leath Glas*; the other two were presented to the new Archbishops, as appears expressly by an old Book of the Clergy of *Cluain Aidnach*, where the Determinations of that Council are particularly recorded; the same Treatise mentions that the Synod assembled in the Year of *Christ* one thousand one hundred fifty seven, and gives the following Account of the Injunctions that were establish'd, and the Delivery of the four *Copes* in the Manner following.

MDLVII. Anno ab Incarnatione Domini nostri *Jesu Christi* eund do f. - elab an- lat eluand hantac an- ro 76. *bissexstili nobile Concilium in vernali tempore apud Ceanannus celebratum fuit; in quo præsidents Dominus Joannes Cardinalis, Presbyter beati Laurentii inter viginti duos Episcopos, & quinque Electos, & inter tot Abbates & Priores ex parte beatorum Apostolorum Petri & Pauli & Domini Apostolici Eugenii, Simoniam & Usuras omnibus modis extirpavit, & damnavit, & Decimas dandas Apostolicâ Autoritate præcepit. Quatuor Pallia quatuor Archiepiscopis Hiberniæ Dubliniensi, Tuaimensi, Caifelenfi & Ardmachano*

*Ardmachano tradidit. Insuper Ardmachanum Episcopum in Primatem super alios prout decuit ordinavit: Qui etiam Cardinalis Joannes protinus post peractum Concilium iter arripuit & nono Calendas Aprilis transfretavit. In the Year from the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, being Bissextile, was celebrated in the Spring a noble Council at Ceanannus. In which Synod presided Cardinal John, a Presbyter of the blessed St. Laurence, and the Assembly consisted of two and twenty Bishops, and five Bishops Elect, and of so many Abbots and Priors, belonging to the blessed Apostles Peter & Paul, and our Apostolick Father Eugenius. This Cardinal condemn'd, and by all proper Methods extirpated the Practice of Simony and Usury, and commanded Tythes to be paid by Apostolical Authority: He deliver'd four Copes to the four Archbishops of Ireland, to the Archbishop of Dublin, of Tuam, of Cashel and Ardmach: Moreover he constituted, as it became him, the Archbishop of Ardmach Primate over the rest, and as soon as the Council was ended he began his Journey, and pass'd the Seas upon the ninth Day of the Calends of April.*

The Names of the Bishops that were present in this synodical Meeting, are deliver'd down to us in the Manner following. *Giolla Criost O Conaire* the Bishop of *Lismore*, and the Pope's Legate, *Giolla Mac Liag* Primate of Ireland. *Daniel O Longargan* Archbishop of *Munster*, that is *Cashel*; *Hugh O Heyn* Archbishop of *Conacht*, that is *Tuam Greine*; *Gregory* Bishop of *Dublin*, *Giolla na Naomb* Bishop *Gleann da Loch*; *Dungal O Caollaighe* Bishop of *Leitbglinn*, *Tuistius* Bishop of *Waterford*, *Daniel O Fogartaigh* Vicar General Bishop of *Osferry*. *Fionn Mac Tiagurnain* Bishop of *Kildare*, *Giolla an Choimde* (or *Deicola*, a *Worshipper of God*.) *O Hardmbaoil* Bishop of *Imleach* or *Elmy*; *Giolla Aodh O Heyn* Bishop of *Cork*; *Maolbreannin O Ruanain* Bishop of *Kerry*, that is *Ard Fearta*; *Turgesius* Bishop of *Limerick*; *Mortough O Maoididbir* Bishop of *Cluain Mac Naois*; *Maoidiosa O Conachtain* Bishop of *Oirbhior Conacht*; *Va Ruadbain* Bishop of *Luighbne*, that is *Achad* or *Achonry*; *Macraith O Morain* Bishop of *Conmaicne* or *Ardacha*, *Eathruadh O Miadbachain* Bishop of *Cluain Joraird*. *Tuathal O Connachtaig* Bishop of *Jobh Bruinn*, that is *Enachduin*; *Muireadbach O Cobhthaig* Bishop of *Cineal Eogain*, that is *Derry*; *Maolpadruic O Beanain* Bishop of *Dailnaruish*, that is of *Connor*, *Maoidiose Mac an Chleirighchuirr* Bishop of *Down*.

an liogear  
bug eo bi  
fan comait  
ro 72.

The Archbishop of *Ardmach* had under his Jurisdiction on the following Sees; *Conor, Down, Louth, Clonard, Kells, Ardachab, Rapho, Rathlary, Duleek and Derry*; but some of these have since been united into one Bishoprick. The Archbishop of *Cashel* presided over the Dioceses of *Killaloe, Limerick, Inis Catha, Kilsenora, Emly, Roscrea, Waterford, Lismore, Cloin, Cork, Ross, and Ardfearta*; but the Number is not so many at present, because some of them have been likewise united. Under the Authority of the Archbishop of *Dublin* are these Sees, *Gleandaloch, Ferns, Offery, Leithglinn, and Kildare*. The Jurisdiction of the Archbishop of *Tuam* extends over the Diocese of *Mayo, Killala, Roscomon, Gluainseart, Achonry, Gluain Mac Nois, and Kilmacough*, in *Irish Cill mhic Duach*, but those Sees are now fewer, and some of them at this Time are utterly unknown.

Not long after this national Convention broke up, *Daniel O Longargain* Bishop of *Munster* left the World; Nor did *Mortough Mac Neill* long survive, who was King over the principal Part of the Kingdom of *Ireland*.

*Roderick*, otherwise call'd *Roger*, fix'd himself in the Throne of his Predecessor. He was the Son of *Turlough O Connor*, surnamed the Great, who descended from the royal Line of *Heremon*. This Prince, by the Historians of those Times, was always plac'd in the Table of the *Irish* Monarchs, and call'd King of *Ireland*, and not improperly, for the Kings of *Oirghiallach, of Meath, and Breifne* submitted to him, though many of the Nobility and Gentry of the Island stood out and oppos'd his Government. He is said to wear the Crown eight Years.

In the Reign of *Roderick* King of *Ireland*, *Teighernan O Ruorke* the King of *Breifne*, had married a Lady of a very lascivious Disposition, who had banish'd the conjugal Esteem that belong'd to a Husband, and resolv'd, when Opportunity offer'd, to fly away from his Court. The Name of this Lady was *Dearbbsborghill*, the Daughter of *Mortough Mac Floinn* King of *Meath*, (and not the Wife of that Prince, as *Giraldus Cambrensis* falsely asserts.) In order to accomplish her Designs she sent a private Message to *Diarmuid Mac Moneagh* the King of *Leinster*, with whom she was in Love, and intreated him that he would rescue her from





formidable Strength of the Confederate Army; and with great Condescension implored their Help, to scatter the impending Storm that would not only overwhelm himself, but involve them in the common Ruin; and bring Destruction upon the whole Country. But this Application had not the Effect desired; for the Nobility had conceived so violent a Resentment against their Prince, for the abominable Injury he had committed, that they absolutely refused to support him in so wicked a Cause, which no Excuse could palliate, and nothing but Repentance and Restitution could atone for; and to secure themselves from any Violence that *Diarmuid* might propose to execute, the Nobility renounc'd his Authority and put themselves under the Protection of *Roderick O'Connor King of Ireland*; for the King of *Leinster* had incens'd his Subjects by many former Provocations, and by his impolitick and tyrannical Government had so lost their Affections, that they left him in his Distress, and abandon'd him to the Power of his Enemies. The King of *Ireland*, encourag'd by this Defection of the Nobility of *Leinster*, march'd his Army into the Territories of that Province; and plunder'd the Country that had continued firm in their Allegiance to *Diarmuid*; for he met with no Opposition, the King of *Leinster* being oblig'd to fly with a few Followers and leave the Province without Defence. The Confederate Army rag'd with all the Terrors of Fire and Sword, and among other dreadful Devastations they march'd to *Fearna*, plunder'd and demolish'd the royal Palace of *Diarmuid*, and drove that unfortunate Prince out of the Island.

This exil'd King thus forc'd from his Dominions was bent upon Revenge, and giving a full Loose to his Passions, determin'd to punish his rebellious Nobility at all Hazards, though the Happiness of his Country was to be sacrific'd in the Attempt. For this purpose he fled into *France*, and implor'd the Protection of *Henry the second King of England*, who was carrying on his Conquests in that Country. The *English* Monarch was not then in a Capacity to lend him any Troops to assist him in the Recovery of his Crown, but wrote Letters by him to some of his Ministers in *England*, which gave him Authority to raise what Men were willing to assist themselves in his Service, and transport them into *Ireland*. *Diarmuid* gratefully receiv'd and acknowledg'd the good service they had done, and knowledg'd



knowledge'd the Civility he found from King *Henry*, and taking his leave of that Prince, he left *France* and landed safely in the Port of *Bristol*. Upon his Arrival he deliver'd his Commission to the Magistrates of that City, where the Letters were publicly read, and to encourage Men to engage in his Service he made ample Promises of Lands and Estates to such, who offer'd themselves and would assist him in the Expedition against his Enemies, who had invaded his Province and rob'd him of his Crown. In this City he met *Richard Mac Gilbert* Son to the Earl of *Strangwell*, to whom he engaged that if he would appear in his Cause and raise a Body of Men for his Service, he would bestow upon him his Daughter *Aoiffe*, who was Heir apparent to his Dominions, and as a Dowry would confirm to him and his Heirs the Crown of *Leinster* after his Decease. The *English* Nobleman joyfully accepted of the Terms, and promised that he would instantly beat up for Volunteers, and when he had completed his Number he would transport them into *Ireland*.

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bigaudan  
ro.

*Diarmuid* having met with this Encouragement from the *English*, went into *Wales*, the Prince of which Country at that Time was *Ralph Griffin*, who was deputed to that Government by *Henry* the Second of *England*. To him he notified the Cause of his Arrival and the Circumstances of his distress'd Affairs, and desired that he would favour the Cause of an exiled Prince driven from his Dominions by a seditious Nobility and the Rebellion of his own Subjects. Here he was inform'd that a Nobleman of signal Courage and an experienc'd Commander, whose Name was *Robert Fitz Stephen*, was detain'd a Prisoner by the Viceroy of *Wales*, for some traitorous Practices against the King of *England*. This Person he thought would be of great Importance to carry on his Designs, and therefore he solicited his Enlargement with all his Interest, and promised if *Ralph Griffin* would release him from his Confinement and oblige him to engage in the *Irish* Expedition, *Fitz Stephen* should never be under a Temptation to raise Disturbances in *England*; for he would provide for him to his Satisfaction, and bestow Estates upon him that should support him in a princely Grandeur, and satisfy the utmost Extent of his Ambition. *Robert Fitz Stephen* had a Brother in Law in that Country, whose Name was *Maurice Fitz Gerald*, who was in great Favour with *Ralph Griffin*, and he with the Bishop of *St. David's* interceded

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terceded for the Releasement of *Fitz Stephen*, and with much Importunity prevail'd for his Discharge; but upon Condition that he should transport himself into *Ireland*, between that Time and the Summer following, and contribute his utmost to the Restoration of the King of *Leinster*. *Diarmuid* likewise obliged himself to confirm to this *English* Nobleman, the Town of *Wexford* and the two Canthreds of the Lands adjacent, to his Heirs for ever, as a Reward for his Service, in assisting him to recover his Right, and to re-establish him in his Dominions.

The King of *Leinster*, having thus successfully manag'd his Solicitation among the *English* and *Welsh*, convey'd himself with great Privacy and with a very small Retinue into *Ireland*, in Order to be ready to receive the Succours he expected. He came to *Fearna* in a Disguise, and discovering himself to the Clergy of that Place, they promised to protect him till his Designs were ripe for Execution. Here he lay conceal'd in his Retirement till the Summer following, at which Time *Robert Fitz Stephen*, having finish'd his Preparations and rais'd what Forces he was able, landed upon the Coasts. The Number he brought over with him seem'd unequal to the Attempt; for it consisted of no more than thirty Knights, sixty Esquires, and three hundred foot Soldiers, who were set on Shore at a Place call'd *Cuan an Bhaimbh*, which lies upon the Border of the Country of *Wexford* upon the South by *Beg Abhain*. These *English* Auxiliaries landed in *Ireland* in the seventh Year of the Reign of *Roderick O Connor*, and in the Year of our Redemption one thousand one hundred and seventy five. There came over likewise in this Expedition a valiant Knight whose Name was *Hermon Morty*, that belong'd to the Earl of *Strangwell*, and was sent by him to inspect into the Manners and Disposition of the *Irish*, and to make Discoveries of the Produce and the Extent of the Island.

Upon the Arrival of the English, *Robert Fitz Stephen* dispatch'd a Messenger to the King of *Leinster* with whom he kept Correspondence. This News was very acceptable to *Diarmuid*, who immediately left his Obscurity and putting himself at the Head of five hundred Horse, whom he always had in Readiness in the Country adjacent, he made all possible Haste to join the *English*, and enter upon Action before his Enemies

were apprised of his Design, or were in any Capacity to oppose him. A Council of War was immediately call'd, and it was resolv'd that *Wexford* should be closely besieged, and accordingly the Army was drawn up before the Walls. But the Inhabitants were so terrified at the Approach of the King of *Leinster*, that in a Meeting of the principal Burghers, it was unanimously agreed to open the Gates before any Assault was made, and by that Means recommend themselves to the Favour of the Victors, and prevent the Sacking of the Town. It was likewise concluded that a Number of select Hostages should be sent to *Diarmuid* as a Security for their future Obedience and Submission, and as Pledges for an annual Tribute, they would oblige themselves to pay, as the most effectual Method, that could be thought of in that Exigency to save their Lives, and preserve their Houses from Plunder. These Proposals were no sooner offer'd, but they were accepted by the King of *Leinster*, who to fulfil his Engagement upon the Surrender bestow'd the Town of *Wexford*, and two *Canthreds* of the adjacent Lands upon *Robert Fitz Stephen*, and likewise confer'd the two next *Canthreds* upon *Hermon Morty*, as he had formerly promised when he was soliciting Assistance in *Wales*, against the prevailing Power of his Enemies.

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do 15411a1b  
anyo.

*Diarmuid* having thus rewarded his Auxiliaries, made a general Muster of his whole Army both *Irish* and *English*, and found upon a Review that his Force consisted of a complete Body of three thousand Men. He gave Orders to decamp and march'd towards the Territories of *Offery*, with a Design to plunder the Country and reduce it to Obedience. The King of *Offery* at this Time was *Danough* the Son of *Daniel Rambar*, who was a profess'd Enemy to the King of *Leinster*. But when the confederate Army had pass'd the Boundaries, and began to commit Hostilities upon the Inhabitants, the King of *Offery* finding himself in no Capacity to oppose the Invaders, summon'd a Council of his principal Nobility and Gentry, who after mature Consideration were oblig'd to resolve to send Hostages to the King of *Leinster*, as a Testimony of their Submission, and to pay him an annual Tax and acknowledge themselves Tributaries; accordingly a Messenger was dispatch'd express with these Conditions, which the King of *Leinster* Complied with, and by this Means

Means the Fury of the Soldiers was restrain'd and the Country secured from farther Depredations.

By this Time the whole Kingdom was alarm'd with the Success of *Diarmuid* and his Auxilliary *English*; and to prevent the dreadful Calamities of a civil War, the Chiefs of the Island, both Nobles and Gentry, applied to *Roderick O Connor* King of *Ireland*, to consult upon proper Methods to put a Stop to the ambitious Designs of the King of *Leinster*, and scatter the impending Storm before it grew formidable, and in a Capacity of overwhelming the Island in Blood and Confusion. A Convention of the Estates therefore was assembled, and after many Debates it was agreed that every Province in the Island should be obliged to supply the King of *Ireland* with an appointed Number of Forces, in Order to confine the King of *Leinster* within the Bounds of his Province, and drive the *English* out of the Country. This Resolution was punctually executed, and every Province raised their Quota of Men, who were sent to the Place of Rendezvous with the utmost Expedition. When *Roderick* found his Army complete, he began his March, and directed his Course towards *Jobb Cisealach*, with a full Design to give Battel to the King of *Leinster*, and fight him at all Adventures. But *Diarmuid* being much inferior in the Number of Men, determin'd not to stand the Shock of this formidable Army, but as *Roderick* approach'd he retir'd and withdrew with his Troops into the Woods and Wildernesses, which at that Time stood near *Fearna*, and afforded him a secure Retreat. The King of *Ireland*, perceiving that the Enemy would not abide the Issue of a decisive Battel, but lurk'd in the Woods, where they could not be attack'd, sent to *Robert Fitz Stephen*, the Commander of the *English*, with Orders that he should instantly leave the Country with all his Foreigners; for the Cause he was engaged in was unjust and dishonourable, and he had no Right to a Foot of Land throughout the Island. But *Robert* despised this proud Command, and return'd for Answer, that he had no Inclination to quit the Country, and would never forsake the King of *Leinster*, but prosecute his Right as long as he had a Man left. *Roderick* enraged with this Reply divided his Army into small Bodies, and gave Orders to his Officers to enter the Woods and attack the King of *Leinster* in his Fastnesses, and he commanded them

to

to give no Quarter to Native or Foreigner, but to put them all to the Sword, and by that Means at once to bring the War to a final End.

But the Clergy of the Province of *Leinster*, foreseeing that these Commotions would be of fatal Consequence to their Country, and that these intestine Broils were destructive to the Peace and the establish'd Revenues of the Church, resolv'd to use their utmost Efforts in reconciling the two Kings, and securing the Kingdom from Bloodshed and other Miseries, that the Continuation of the War made unavoidable. For that Purpose they assembled in a Body, and marched towards the Army of the King of *Ireland*. When they arriv'd they were admitted into the King's Presence, and prostrating themselves before him as humble Supplicants, they beseech'd him to commiserate the distress'd State of his native Country, and prevent the Effusion of Christian Blood, by ceasing of Hostilities and entering into a Treaty with the King of *Leinster*. *Roderick*, who was a Prince of a merciful Disposition, relented at this Representation of the Clergy, and was contented to withdraw his Army and come into pacifick Measures with the King of *Leinster*. The Conditions of Peace were agreed upon, which establish'd that *Diarmuid* should enjoy the Government of *Leinster* in as full Extent, as any of his Predecessors did before him, but he was oblig'd to send in Hostages of the first Quality to the King of *Ireland*, as a Security for his future Obedience, and that he would not embroil the Kingdom in new Troubles; he was bound likewise to promise Fealty and Homage to the Crown of *Ireland*, as the Kings of *Leinster* had ever done to the *Irish* Monarchs, and engage that he would give no Encouragement to Foreigners to invade the Island, particularly that the *English* should find no Protection from him, but be compell'd to quit the Country. These Conditions were accepted by *Diarmuid*, who as an Evidence of his Integrity deliver'd to *Roderick* as an Hostage his Son whose Name was *Art na Ngiall*, and the King of *Ireland* stipulated that he would bestow his Sister in Marriage upon the King of *Leinster*, by which Alliance it was hoped that a solid and lasting Peace would be establish'd between the two Families and the Island restored to its former Tranquillity.

But



But this happy Prospect was soon obscured; for the Summer following *Maurice Fitz Gerald*, remembering the Promise he had made to the King of *Leinster*, landed in *Ireland*. Nor was he without Hopes that by assisting that Prince to recover his Right, he should be intitled to a great Reward and obtain large Possessions in the Country. The Number of Men that he brought over in this Expedition, consisted of no more than ten Knights, thirty Esquires, and one hundred Foot, whom he set on Shore in the Port of *Wexford*.

He soon notified his Arrival to the King of *Leinster*, and *Robert Fitz Stephen* the *English* General; and *Diarmuid* urg'd on by his ambitious Designs, resolved to break the Peace, and with his Auxiliary *English* again try his Fortune and take the Field; Accordingly he march'd at the Head of his Forces to *Wexford*, to congratulate the Arrival of *Maurice Fitz Gerald*, and to assign him a Post in the Army suitable to his Experience and his Quality. With this additional Aid he resolv'd to begin the Campaign, with laying close Siege to the City of *Dublin*; for the Inhabitants of that Place had always profess'd themselves Enemies to his Father and himself, and therefore he purpos'd to take Revenge for the Indignities his Family had received, and chastise the Pride and Insolence of those haughty Citizens. But *Robert Fitz Stephen* did not attend him in this Expedition, but staid behind to erect a Fort at a Place call'd *Carraick* within two Miles of the Town of *Wexford*. *Diarmuid* with his Auxiliaries under the Command of *Maurice Fitz Gerald*, directed his March to *Fingall*, and set all the adjacent Country on Fire. These Hostilities alarm'd the Magistrates of *Dublin*, who immediately summon'd a Council, and resolv'd to make their Peace with the King of *Leinster* upon any Terms, and save the City from Plunder. They sent him into his Camp a large Quantity of Gold, Silver, Jewels, Silks, and other valuable Presents, and surrender'd themselves to his Mercy, imploring him to spare a deluded and unfortunate People, and accept of Hostages whom he should receive as an Evidence of their Loyalty, and a Security for their future Obedience; they promised likewise that they would chearfully pay whatever Tribute was laid upon them, and atone for their former Miscarriages by a double Share of Duty, and Fidelity. These Articles were ac-

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cepted by *Diarmuid*, and the Citizens deliver'd from their Fears.

This continued Course of Success animated the King of *Leinster* to more ambitious Designs, and reflecting that many of his Ancestors had worn the Crown of *Ireland*, he entertain'd Hopes of being Monarch of the Island, and resolv'd to make an Attempt upon the Throne. The Kings who sway'd the Scepter from whom he descended were *Cathair More*, *Connor Abbra-ruadh*, *Labhra Loingseach*, *Laogaire Luire*, and *Ugaine More*. *Diarmuid* communicated his Resolution to *Robert Fitz Stephen* and *Maurice Fitz Gerald*, who approv'd of his Design, and told him that he was now become formidable, and might with small Difficulty fix the Crown upon his Head; but withal politickly advised him to proceed with great Caution and Secrecy, and not to enter upon Execution before his Army was reinforc'd with fresh Supplies, which would soon be transported from *England*, and put him into a Capacity of carrying on his Designs, beyond a Possibility of Disappointment. This Approbation of the *English* Generals, added Fuel to the Fire of Ambition already kindled in the Breast of the King of *Leinster*, who transported with the Friendship and Sincerity of his Auxiliaries, offer'd to either of them his Daughter as a Reward for their Zeal and faithful Services. But they had both too much Honour to accept of the Lady, because she had been formerly contracted to the Earl of *Strangwell*. When *Diarmuid* was soliciting Assistance from the Crown of *England*, this noble Earl they advised should be immediately applied to; the King of *Leinster* should write to him an obliging Letter, requesting that he would come over to his Assistance, with the Forces he promised him, and engaging that the Conditions on his Part should be fulfill'd, the Marriage to his Daughter should be contracted, and he was ready to settle the Crown of *Leinster* upon him and his Heirs after his Decease. He was to signify likewise that his Affairs went on prosperously, that his Province of *Leinster* was recover'd, and he had a fair Prospect of reducing the other four Provinces under his Government, and fixing himself in the Monarchy of the whole Island.

This Letter was sent and received by the Earl of *Strangwell*, who perused it with great Deliberation, and reflecting upon the good Fortune of the King of *Leinster*,

*Leinster*, and the Success of his Countrymen *Maurice Fitz Gerald* and *Robert Fitz Stephen*, determin'd to accept of the Invitation and transport himself with all possible Speed into *Ireland*; but first he applied himself to his Sovereign the King of *England*, and desired leave to go out of the Kingdom and seek his Fortune abroad, for he was weary of an unactive Life, and requested his Permission to travel and try the Mettle of his Sword in foreign Countries. The King not willing to discourage the enterprising Genius of this noble Earl, nor yet willing to be reflected upon if he miscarried, neither gave his actual Licence, not repuls'd him with a positive Denial, but left him to pursue the Bent of his Inclination; which Silence of the King was understood by the Earl as an Evidence of his Permission, and taking leave of his Majesty, he prosecuted his Design with Vigor, raised a small party of Men, and made all necessary Preparations for his *Irish* Expedition. But before he came over himself in Person, he thought it proper to send before him two of his superior Officers, *Redmond Delagrose*, and *William Fitz Gerald*, (the elder Brother of *Maurice Fitz Gerald* above mentioned) with a small Body of Forces, to inquire into the Posture of Affairs, and signify to the King of *Leinster* and his Countrymen, that he would soon follow with large Supplies and fulfil his Promise. These Officers set to Sea and landed at *Dun Donnail* four Miles from *Waterford* Southwards; and according to *Stainburst* in his Chronicle, the Number, who were sent over at this Time, consisted of no more than ten Knights, ten Esquires, and sixty foot Soldiers, and when they came upon the Coasts they erected a strong Fort of Sods and Stones to defend them from the Attempts of the Inhabitants.

When the Inhabitants of *Waterford*, and *Mosleach*, *him O Eaglain* King of the *Desies*, received Intelligence that the *English* had fortified themselves in their Neighbourhood, they apprehended themselves to be in imminent Danger; and summoning a Council, it was unanimously agreed to attack the Fort, which was defended but by a Handful of Men, and put them all to the Sword, before they were reliev'd by fresh Supplies. Accordingly a select Party of two hundred Men, under the Conduct of an experienc'd Officer, were order'd to dislodge these Foreigners, and not suffer a Man of them to escape.

*Redmond*

*Redmond Delagrose*, who had the Command of the Fort, observing the *Irish* advancing towards him, resolv'd to oppose them before they came near the Walls, and drawing out his small Number of Men, he led them on, and with great Indiscretion began the Charge. But the *Irish* receiv'd him smartly, which soon convinc'd him of his Mistake, and finding the Enemy to be more numerous than he expected, he sounded a Retreat, and thought to recover the Fort with small Loss. But the *Irish* fell upon his Rear and pursued him so hotly, that he was obliged to face about, and fighting with desperate Courage at the Head of his Company, he so astonish'd the *Irish* Troops, that they were not able to stand the Shock, but gave way and fled for their Lives. The Slaughter in this Action was terrible; for the *English* were a handful of brave well disciplin'd Troops, and notwithstanding the Disproportion of Numbers, they broke the Ranks of the raw disorder'd *Irish*, and gave them a general Defeat.

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The Year following, upon St. *Bartholomew's* Day, in the Time of Harvest, the Earl of *Strangwell* landed in *Ireland*, and brought over a strong Body of Forces, consisting of two hundred valiant Knights, and a thousand Esquires, that were Bowmen, whom he set on Shore in the Port of *Waterford*. Upon his Arrival he sent Intelligence to the King of *Leinster*, and to his Countrymen *Robert Fitz Stephen* and *Redmond Delagrose*, and likewise notified how well provided he came, and what Forces he had to support him. *Diarmuid* received this News with great Joy, and with his Auxiliary *English* immediately directed his March to welcome the Earl of *Strangwell*, and pay him his Compliments. After a small Time was spent in Ceremonies and mutual Civilities, a general Council of War was call'd, wherein it was agreed that the Army should instantly enter upon Action, and open their Designs by laying close Siege to the Town of *Waterford*. Accordingly the next Day they decamp'd and presented themselves before the Walls. The Inhabitants within made a vigorous Defence; but the valiant Earl of *Strangwell* was not to be repell'd, his Troops signal-ly distinguish'd themselves in this Action, and making a general Assault enter'd the Town. The Soldiers in their first Fury destroy'd all they met, and gave no Quarter. *Maolseachluin O Faolain* the King of the *Deisies* was taken Prisoner, and hardly escaped with his Life, which would



would certainly have fallen a Sacrifice to the enraged Victors, if the King of *Leinster* had not interceded and with great Generosity rescued him out of their Hands.

It was observ'd before, that *Diarmuid* the King of *Leinster* had a young Lady to his Daughter whose Name was *Aoise*, whom he promised in *England* to the Earl of *Strangwell*. This Princess after the taking of *Waterford* was sent for by her Father, and was married there with great Solemnity to that noble Earl, upon the Conditions formerly stipulated between them. After the Accomplishment of the nuptial Rites, the Earl left his Lady and the Town of *Waterford* under the Care of a strong Guard, and at the Head of his Troops directed his March towards the City of *Dublin*. Never did the Approach of an Enemy make a more terrible Impression upon a distress'd City, than the advancing of the *Irish* and *English* upon the Inhabitants of *Dublin*; nor could a victorious General lay Siege to a Town with more Fury and Resentment about him, than raged at that Time in the Breast of the King of *Leinster* against the People of that City, who had kill'd his Father, and used him in an ignominious Manner after his Death, for they buried a Dog with him in the same Grave as a Testimony of their Hatred, and offer'd such Indignities to him as History can scarce parallel. These Affronts were fresh in the Memory of the King of *Leinster*, who resolv'd to take ample Revenge of these vile Citizens; and they were so convinc'd of what Usage they were to expect from him, that they immediately met in Council to debate upon the Necessity of their Affairs, and avert the impending Storm before they were overwhelm'd by it. In this Assembly it was unanimously agreed to send *Laurence O Tuathail* (in the *English* Language *O Tool*) Archbishop of *Dublin*, with a Commission to treat in the most submissive Manner with the King of *Leinster*, and to prevail with him upon any Terms to spare a distress'd City, that was now too sensible of the Indignities she had offer'd him, and promised by way of Atonement to purchase his Friendship at the Expence of all the Gold and Silver they could raise, and deliver him Hostages to secure their future Submission if he would raise the Siege and withdraw his Army.



do gabail  
ata eliat  
anyo 76.

But while the Archbishop was interceding for the Acceptance of these Conditions, and adjusting the Capitulation, it happen'd that *Meills Cogan* and *Redmond Delagrose*, with a strong Body of his *English* Knights, were posted on the other Side of the Town, and carried on the Attack with that Vigour and Success, that they made a considerable Breach in the Walls, and forcibly enter'd the City. The Citizens and whomsoever they met in their first Fury, the Soldiers put to the Sword without Distinction, the Gates were seized and the City secured for the King of *Leinster*, who after he had left a strong Garrison to defend it, drew out his Men, and led them on in pursuit of farther Conquests. The King of *Breifne* at this Time was *O Ruorke*, who had always profess'd himself an Enemy to the King of *Leinster*; *Diarmuid* therefore, attended by his Confederate *English*, enter'd the Country of *Breifne* with Fire and Sword, and committed incredible Barbarities upon the Inhabitants. *O Ruorke* was reduced to great Extremities by this Invasion, and the King of *Leinster* was so elevated by a constant Course of Success, that he made no Question of gratifying his Ambition with the Monarchy of the Island, for his very Name was a Terror throughout the Kingdom, and Victory followed him in all his Undertakings.

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76.

*Roderick O. Connor*, King of *Ireland*, was alarm'd at the Progress of the King of *Leinster*, and was now convinc'd that no Treaties or Obligations could bind a Prince, who resolv'd to stand to no Engagements which shorten'd his Prospects and oppos'd his Designs, for he had broken the Peace in the most outrageous Manner, not considering that his Son was an Hostage, and that he had sworn Allegiance to the King of *Ireland*. But before *Roderick* took the Field to chastise his Insolence, he thought proper to send a Messenger to expostulate with him upon his Breach of Faith, to upbraid him for his Perjury and Perfidiousness, and to assure him that if he would not return to his Duty, and send back the *English* into their own Country, he would send him his Son's Head, and lay him under a publick Interdict, and again oblige him to quit the Island. This Message was deliver'd, but made no Impression upon the King of *Leinster*, who knew himself to be too well supported to be terrified by Words, and return'd an Answer, that he would not send back the *English*, but soon transport

sport more of them into the Country, and that he would not lay down his Army till he had reduced the whole Kingdom under his Authority; and withal; that if the King of *Ireland* offer'd to take away the Life of his Son, he would revenge his Death by Hostilities yet unheard of, and not give up his Resentment without a complete Destruction of himself and his Family. *Roderick O Connor* was astonish'd at the Insolence of this petty Prince, and resolv'd in his Passion to execute his Purpose upon the royal Hostage he had in his Hands, but upon mature Reflection he desisted, and wisely consider'd that his Enemy was in Possession of a great Part of the Kingdom, and a Terror to what remain'd unsubdued; that the Event of War was uncertain, and that such a barbarous Act would render him odious to his People, whose Affections were his only Support against the prevailing Power of a successful and haughty Enemy.

The King of *England* had received Intelligence of the Proceedings of his Subjects in *Ireland*, under the Conduct of the Earl of *Strangwell* and other valiant Commanders, and not approving of their Designs, he publish'd a Proclamation that no Ship or Bark should sail for *Ireland* out of any of the *English* Ports, and that no Trade or Correspondence should be maintain'd with that Island, under the severest Penalties, and that all the *English* in that Kingdom should immediately return home upon Pain of losing their Estates; and of being declared Rebels and Traytors. This Proclamation soon came to the Hands of the Earl of *Strangwell*, who immediately call'd a Council of the *English* Officers, and it was agreed not to return instantly and quit that Country, but to send *Redmond Delagrose* to the King of *England*, with a Commission to represent to his Majesty that it was by his own royal Permission, that the Earl of *Strangwell* espoused the Cause of *Diarmuid Mac Morough* King of *Leinster*; that the *English* had no Design to withdraw their Allegiance from their natural Sovereign, but intended to conquer the Country in his Name, and submit the Territories they should subdue to his Authority and Disposal.

With this Message *Redmond Delagrose* sail'd into *France*, and found the King of *England* in *Gascoign*. This was the Year in which that famous Prelate *Thomas Becket* Archbishop of *Canterbury* was murder'd, which  
 † barbarous

~~~~~ barbarous Act was committed upon the first Day of  
 by 1206 *Christmas*, in the Year of our Redemption one thousand one  
 1210 1211 an- hundred seventy one. In the Month of *May* following  
 10 78. *Diarmuid* the King of *Leinster* died and was buried at  
*Fearna*.

*Henry* the Second soon after he receiv'd this Mes-  
 sage from his Subjects in *Ireland*, return'd into *England*,  
 and sent one of his Knights, whose Name was *Hermon*  
*Morty*, with Letters to the Earl of *Strangwell*; *Redmond*  
*Delagrose* was likewise sent back to the Earl, who re-  
 ceiving the Letters, found that he was obliged instantly  
 to repair into *England*, and give an Account of his  
 Conduct to his Majesty; when he came to Court he  
 was admitted into the King's Presence, and after he had  
 faithfully inform'd him of the Posture of the *Irish* Af-  
 fairs, he offer'd to deliver up the Possession of *Dublin*,  
*Waterford* and other principal Towns in the Province of  
*Leinster* into his Majesty's Hands, if he pleas'd by his  
 royal Grant to confirm to him and his Heirs, the Enjoy-  
 ment of the remaining Parts of that Province. The  
 King condescended to accept of these Terms, and in a  
 short Time followed the Earl with a numerous Army  
 into *Ireland*; He landed in the Port of *Waterford*, and  
 was attended in this Expedition with five hundred  
 Knights besides a select Army of Horse and Foot, who  
 were all set on Shore in the Year of *Christ* one thousand  
 one hundred seventy two.

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The King continued at *Waterford* for some Time:  
 This was his head Quarters, and here the Burghers of  
*Wexford* and the *English* throughout the Kingdom, who  
 had Notice of his Arrival, came and paid him Homage,  
 and submitted to his Authority. *Diarmuid More Mac*  
*Carty* King of *Cork* likewise made a Tender of his  
 Submission to King *Henry*, which he accepted. From  
*Waterford*, the King removed to *Cashel*, where he was  
 met by *Daniel O Bryen* King of *Limerick*, who submit-  
 ted himself, and promised to continue faithful in his O-  
 bedience, in the same Manner as *Diarmuid* the King of  
*Cork* had done before him. The King of *England* was  
 pleas'd with this Success, and sent a Party of Horse and  
 Foot to secure *Cork* and *Limerick* for his Service. At  
*Cashel* the principal Nobility of *Munster* waited upon him  
 and promised him Obedience, from thence he return'd  
 to *Waterford*, where he received Homage from the King  
 of *Offery*, and Assurances of his future Fidelity. From

do Geille  
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 1211 50  
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*Waterford* the King of *England* remov'd to *Dublin*, where he was met by the Nobility of the Province of *Leinster*, whose Submission he received, and promised to continue them in the Possession of their lawful Privileges.

This general Defection was very unacceptable to *Roderick O Connor* the King of *Conacht*, and of the greatest Part of the Island, who finding himself abandon'd by his Countrymen (who rather chose to submit to a foreign Yoke than attempt to repel these Foreigners) thought it prudential in him to make a Virtue of Necessity, and submit likewise to the King of *England*; for he was forsaken by most of the Princes of the Island, and was in no Circumstances to oppose the Progress of the *English* Arms, and therefore he thought that the Condition of his Affairs required that he should rather confess an Authority however unjust than oppose it to his own Destruction. Under these Reflections he received a Message from the King of *England* by two principal Noblemen, whose Names were *Hugo de Lacy* and *William Aldelmel*, with a kind Invitation to wait upon their Master, who lay with his Army upon the Bank of the River *Shannon*. The King of *Ireland* was obliged to comply, and accordingly he met the *English* Monarch at the Place appointed, who received him with great Generosity and Friendship, and after mutual Compliments a Peace was concluded before the Nobility of both Kingdoms. *Morough Mac Floinn* was at this Time the King of *Meath*; and he likewise confess'd the Authority of the King of *England*, so that there was an universal Submission, nor was there any King, Prince or Noblemam throughout the Island, who refused to receive this Invitation, or did not pay Homage to the *English* Crown.

The following Winter proved Stormy and Tempestuous, so that Navigation was dangerous, nor would any Ship venture to sail in the *Irish* Sea; by this Means the King of *England* could receive no Intelligence from his own Country till the Month of *March*, at which Time he had Letters brought him from *England* and *France*, which were very unacceptable, and gave him great Uneasiness; among other Articles of News, he had an Account that the Pope of *Rome* sent Cardinals into *England* to make particular Inquiry into the Death of the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and if the King in

Person refused to give them Satisfaction upon that Head, they had Commission to excommunicate him, and all his Subjects, who should afterwards submit to his Authority, or acknowledge him for their Sovereign. This Intelligence was very unwelcome to the King, as the Circumstances of his Affairs then stood, but he was equally surpris'd to hear that his eldest Son had in his Absence seized upon the Crown of *England*, and resolv'd to defend it against his Father by Force of Arms. Under this Difficulty of Affairs he call'd a Council of his superior Officers, wherein it was agreed that a select Body of Forces should be transported into *England* with all Expedition, and the King himself would soon follow them. This Advice was immediately executed, a strong Body was detach'd, who landed in *England*, and the King after he had settled his *Irish* Affairs set to Sea and arriv'd safely in his own Dominions. He dispos'd of the Forces he left in *Ireland* into proper Garrisons, for the Defence of the Country, and to suppress all Attempts that should be made by the Natives, in case they should be any ways Troublefom under his Government. *Hugo de Lacy* he left with twenty Knights in *Meath*, and bestow'd upon him that Country, and confirm'd it by his royal Grant to his Posterity. The Command of the City of *Dublin* he committed to *Robert Fitz Stephen* and *Maurice Fitz Gerald*, and allowed them twenty Knights for Guard. He left *William de Aldemmel* in the Government of *Wexford*, and join'd with him in Commission *Philip de Hastings* and *Philip de Brufs*, who likewise had twenty Knights in their Service. The Command of *Waterford* he appointed to *Humphry Bolum*, *Hugo Gundavil* and *Robert Mac Bernard*, who were attended by twenty Knights. When King *Henry* arrived in *England* he found that the Necessity of his Affairs obliged him to submit to the Roman Cardinals, and to comply with whatever they required in Relation to the Death of the Archbishop of *Canterbury*: These Missionaries likewise adjusted the Difference between *Henry* and the Crown of *France*, and established a Peace between the two Kingdoms.

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yon deeda-  
nuy eipioñ.

do geallam  
nigS Sag-  
fan dona  
Cairbio-  
naly.

If it should be inquired in this Place upon what Account *Diarmuid* the King of *Leinster* chose to commit himself and his Affairs under the Protection of the King of *England*, rather than to the King of *France* or any other Monarch of hristendom, it must be



be understood that *Donough* the Son of *Bryen Boiroimbe* was a Prince very unacceptable to the principal Nobility of *Ireland*, who rather than pay him Obedience unanimously came into a Resolution to make a Present of the whole Island to *Urbanus* the Second, Pope of *Rome*, which was done in the Year of our Redemption one thousand ninety two. So that by this Donation the Popes laid Claim to the Sovereignty of *Ireland*, which they executed so far as to govern the Nobility and Clergy by wholesome Laws, and to establish a regular Discipline in the Church. And the Popes maintain'd this Authority till *Adrian* the fourth of that Name sat in Saint *Peter's* Chair, which was in the Year of our Lord one thousand one hundred and fifty four. This Pope was an *Englishman* by Descent, and his original Name was *Nicolas Brusber*.

*Stowe* the *English* Annalist asserts, in his Chronicle, that this Pope bestowed the Kingdom of *Ireland* upon *Henry* the Second, in the first Year of his Reign, and in the Year of our Redemption one thousand one hundred and fifty four. This Author relates likewise that this Donation was confer'd upon the King of *England*, on Condition that he would revive the Profession of the Christian Faith, that was dead throughout the Island; that he should polish the rude Manners of the Inhabitants, defend and restore the Rights and Revenues of the Church and Clergy, and take especial Care that every inhabited House in the Kingdom should pay annually one Penny to the Pope under the Name of St. *Peter's* Penny. explains et-  
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pa en 10.

This Grant of the Kingdom of *Ireland* to King *Henry* was drawn up in Writing, which when he received, he sent *John* Bishop of *Salisbury* with this Instrument of the Pope's Donation into *Ireland*. Upon his Landing at *Waterford* he sent to the Bishops and the principal Clergy of the Island, and gave them an Account of his Commission. They attended upon him at *Waterford*, where he publish'd the Pope's Grant of the Kingdom of *Ireland* to *Henry* the second King of *England*, with the Conditions to be perform'd on his Part, and by all who succeeded him in that Crown. The Clergy took the Matter into Consideration, and after some Debates an Instrument was drawn up, which contain'd their absolute Submission to this Donation of the Pope, and to this they all unanimously subscrib'd.

The

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on anyo je

The Bishop return'd with this Confirmation of the Pope's Grant by the Clergy of Ireland, and the King of England sent the same Prelate with the Instrument to the Pope, who was well pleas'd with the Submission of the Irish Clergy, and sent a Ring to King Henry as a Confirmation of his former Grant, by which he was establish'd in the Possession of the Irish Crown.

*Bellarmino*, an eminent Cardinal, agrees with this Account in a Part of his Works, where are these Words. *Adrianus Papa quartus, Natione Anglus, Vir sapiens & pius, Hiberniam Insulam Henrico secundo Regi Anglorum concessit ea conditione, ut in ea Insula Virtutes plantaret & vitia eradicaret, ut a singulis Domibus quotannis Denarium sancto Petro penderetur, & ut Jura Ecclesiastica illibata servaret: Extat Diploma To. 120. Cardinalis Baronii. Adrian the fourth Pope of Rome, by Birth an Englishman, a wise and pious Man, hath granted the Island of Ireland to Henry the second King of England, upon Condition that he propagates Virtue in that Island, and extirpates Vice; that he takes Care that one Penny be paid yearly to Saint Peter by every House, and that he preserves the Rights of the Church inviolable: The Diploma is extant in the twelfth Volume of Cardinal Baronius.*

*Stainburst* in his Chronicle asserts the same thing, where he gives the Account that Henry the second, King of England, procured a Bull from Adrian the Pope of Rome, which injoin'd the Clergy of Ireland, and likewise the Nobility of the Kingdom, to pay Obedience to Henry the Second, upon the Conditions and under the Restrictions therein contain'd. The same Author likewise relates that Alexander the third Pope of that Name, sent a Cardinal (whose Name was *Vivianus*) into Ireland, to inform the Subjects of that Kingdom of the Grant that he and the precedent Pope made of that Kingdom to Henry the second King of England, by the Tenor of which that Crown was confirm'd to Henry and his Successors, upon Condition of paying to himself and his Successors in Saint Peter's Chair, a yearly Tribute of a Penny from every inhabited House throughout the Island.

It appears therefore that the Reason why *Diarmuid* the King of *Leinster* applied himself to the King of England, rather than to any other Prince, was because the

the King of *England* laid Claim to the Kingdom of *Ireland*; by Virtue of the Donation from the two Popes above-mention'd; and therefore that King had Power by his superior Authority to adjust the Pretences of the Princes in *Ireland*; and to engage in their Disputes; and consequently to interpose in the Quarrel of the King of *Leinster*; and settle him in the Possession of that Province.

It must be Surprising to every one, who makes himself acquainted with the *Irish* History; to find such an Expression in the Bull of Pope *Adrian*; as that the King of *England* was to enjoy the Crown of *Ireland*; upon Condition that he would revive the Christian Faith; and restore it to its former Lustre; as if Christianity had been expell'd; and the People had return'd to a state of Paganism and Idolatry. Whoever gave this Account to the Pope was as great an Enemy to Truth, as he was to the Glory of the *Irish* Nation; since it is evident beyond Contradiction, that the Religion that was propagated in the Island by Saint *Patrick*; was never totally suppress'd, though by frequent Confusions in the State it might sometimes be obscur'd. And this is confirm'd not only by Writers among the *Irish*; but by many Authors of other Nations. for notwithstanding (as the venerable *Beda* relates in his History of *England*;) there was a Difference between the *Irish* and the *English* Clergy; and some of the former were infected with the Heresy of *Pelagius*; yet the principal and the more learned Part of the Clergy of *Ireland*; were free from the Contagion of those pestilent Doctrines; and not only kept the Christian Faith alive; but by their Preaching and Example; occasion'd it to flourish through the greatest Part of the Island; especially from the Reign of the illustrious *Bryen Boirimbe*; till *Henry* the Second landed upon the Coasts.

And that the State of Religion was not so languishing as the Bull of the Pope would represent; among other Testimonies that might be produced it will be sufficient to insist upon the Number among the principal Nobility and Gentry of that Kingdom; who in the latter Part of their Life enter'd into religious Houses; as Retirements wherein to spend their remaining Days in Piety and Exercises of Devotion. Among the illustrious Personages; who secluded themselves from the Pleasures of the World for the sake of Devotion, was

the pious *Flathbbertach an Trosdair O Neill*, who was the first profess'd Penitent in Ireland, and afterwards undertook (according to the Religion of those Times) a Pilgrimage to *Rome*, in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and three. *Donough* the Son of *Bryen Boiroimbe* (as appears by this History) finish'd a Pilgrimage to the same Place, and devoted himself to a Holy Life in the Abby of Saint *Stephen* where he ended his Days. *Teige Mac Lorcán* King of *Cinsealach* spent the latter Part of his Life in *Glandaloch*, in a most penitent and religious Manner. *Cathal* the Son of *Roger O Connor*, King of the East Part of the Province of *Conacht*, ended his Life with great Devotion in *Ardmoch*, and *Mortough O Bryen* King of *Leath Moidha* and of the greatest Part of *Ireland*, retired to the same Place for his five last Years, and died a severe Penitent.

do beata  
craibtead  
eas do 7  
ylib eipioh  
anro 7c.

Many more Instances might be produced of the principal Nobility of the Kingdom, who ended their Days in religious Sorrow and the strictest Piety, from the Reign of the great *Bryen Boiroimbe* to the Arrival of the *English* upon the Coasts; from whence it is evident that whoever gave Intelligence to Pope *Adrian*, that the Christian Faith was suppress'd and abolish'd throughout the Kingdom of *Ireland*, was as great an Enemy to Truth and Integrity, as he profess'd himself to the Piety and Character of the *Irish* Nation.

A second Evidence to prove that the Doctrines of Christianity were received and establish'd in the Island, long before the Coming of the *English*, may be deduced by taking a general Survey of many Churches, Monasteries and Abbies erected throughout the Island, by the Charity of pious Persons, for the Benefit of Devotion and the Service of divine Worship, before the *English* drew Breath in the Country. *Maolseachlainn* King of *Meath* and Monarch of the Island, built St. *Mary's* Abby in the City of *Dublin*, in the Year of our Redemption one thousand one hundred thirty nine.

do eogbail  
iomad 2hain  
172nead a  
Guy team  
pul anro 7c.

*Donough O Carroll* King of *Oirgiallach*, erected the Abby of *Mellifont* in the Country of *Louth*. This pious Work was begun at the Solicitation of St. *Malachias*, and completed in the Year one thousand one hundred forty two. St. *Malachias* the Bishop of *Each Dun* built the Abby of *Jobhair Cintragha*, in the Year one thousand one hundred forty four. *Diarmuid Mac Morough* King of *Leinster*, laid the Foundation of the

Abby



Abby of *Beatinglass*, Anno Domini one thousand one hundred fifty one. The Abby of *Beitlis* otherwise call'd *de Beatitudine*, in the County of *Meath*, the Abby *O Dorna* in the County of *Kerry*, the Abby of *Maig* in the County of *Limerick*, and the Abby of *Boyle* were erected in the Year of our Redemption one thousand one hundred sixty one. *Daniel O Bryen*, King of *Limerick*, built the Abby of the holy Cross in the County of *Tipperary*, in the Year of *Christ* one thousand one hundred sixty nine. The Abby of *Fearmoye* in the County of *Cork* was finished in the Year one thousand one hundred and seventy. Many more Instances might be produced of Churches, Abbies, Monasteries and other religious Foundations erected in those pious Times, before the *English* came upon the *Irish* Coasts; and consequently it follows that those Foreigners did not plant the Catholick Faith in the Island, but found it as it was believed and established for many preceding Ages.

A third Testimony in Confirmation that Christianity was not extinguish'd in the Island, before the Arrival of the *English*, may be drawn from the ancient Annals of the Kingdom, which give an Account of many Synods and Ecclesiastical Conventions, consisting of the Clergy and Nobility, that were held with a Design to regulate the Discipline of the Church, and likewise Matters of secular Concern; and it is certain that the Affairs of Religion were settled by those Assemblies, and Canons and Injunctions establish'd from the Reign of *Donough* the Son of *Bryen Boiroimhe*, till the *English* obtain'd Possessions in the Island.

The first Convocation of Note in *Ireland* was assembled at *Fiadh Mac Naongusa*, in the first Year of the Reign of *Mortough O Bryen*, and in the Year of *Christ* one thousand one hundred and ten. In this Synod the old Laws and Canons both Ecclesiastical and Civil were revised and corrected, and whatever Errors or heretical Doctrines had through the Indolence of Church Discipline crept into the Church, were censured and condemned, and the Fomenters of Schism and Division brought to Punishment.

Another Ecclesiastical Convention was summon'd in the fifth Year of the Reign of *Mortough* abovemention'd, and the whole Body of the Clergy and Nobility assembled at *Rath Breasail*, in the Year of our Redemption



one thousand one hundred and fifteen. In this Synod the Dioceses were laid out, and their several Boundaries fixed, and Bishops ordained throughout the Kingdom.

A third Convocation of the Clergy and Nobility of Ireland was held at *Ceananus* in the Country of *Meath*, in which *Christianus O'Conaick* Bishop of *Lismore* presided, and was commission'd with a legantine Power from the Pope. In this Synod also sat a Roman Cardinal, call'd *Joannes Papman*. He was sent from the holy Father to present four Copes to the four Archbishops in Ireland, to ordain Ecclesiastical Canons, and to regulate the Discipline of the Church. In this Convention, among other excellent Injunctions, the wicked Practice of Symony was suppress'd, Usury was censured and forbidden, Tythes were order'd to be paid by divine Right, Rapes, Incontinence, Profaneness and Immorality were interdicted and restrain'd. It would be Repetition to insist upon the particular Matters debated and confirm'd in this Synod, since they have been related before in their proper Place. These are Arguments of Force sufficient to overthrow the Aspersions of those Writers who confidently assert that Christianity was extinguish'd in the Island, when the *English* first made an Attempt and landed upon the Coasts.

The *English* Historians have likewise abused the ancient *Irish*, in another Instance, by charging them with Barbarities and unheard of Cruelties, and with a peculiar Savageness in their Nature that inclin'd them to the most uncivilis'd and brutish Practices; but to qualify the Severity of this Censure, it will appear unquestionably true, that five of the superior Officers, that came over with the *English*, were guilty of more vile and inhuman Actions, than had been committed in the Island from the Reign of *Bryen Boirombe* till those Foreigners arriv'd. Nothing Civil or Sacred escaped the Fury of these Commanders: Churches, and religious Houses were plunder'd and destroy'd without Mercy and Distinction: Murders, Rapes, Tyranny and the most unconscionable Oppression were the Recreation of these Foreigners, who without Remorse or Regret confounded every thing human and divine, and made the Island a most deplorable Scene of Bloodshed and Misery. The

Earl of *Strangwell*, *Robert Fitz Stephen*, *Hugo de Lacy*, *John de Courcy* and *William Aldelmell*, were severe Instruments

struments in the Hands of Providence to chastise the divided Natives, as will appear from some Instances of their Barbarity, but more particularly from the Chronicle of *Stainburst* and other Writers. But divine Vengeance, notwithstanding they raged with Impunity, fix'd a Mark of Infamy upon the Families of these Plunderers, for scarce a Man of them left a Son behind him to enjoy the Effects of their Father's Oppression; as *Stainburst* expressly testifies of the Earl of *Strangwell*, who, after he had committed inexpressible Outrages upon the Natives, ravaged and destroy'd Churches and Monasteries, and expell'd the Clergy Regular and Secular without Distinction, died miserably at *Dublin* in the Year of *Christ* one thousand one hundred seventy seven, after the Tyranny of seven Years from his first landing in the Country. It was observ'd before that this *English* Nobleman was married to *Aoise* the Daughter of the King of *Leinster*; by this Princess he left Issue but one Daughter, whose Name was *Isabella*; this Lady was contracted to *William Marshal*, an *English* man, by whom she had five Sons and five Daughters; All the Sons died childless, the Daughters were married to *English* Noblemen, among whom was divided the Country of *Leinster*, in the Year of *Christ* one thousand two hundred and thirty, which brought great and lasting Calamities upon that Province. Thus were Misfortunes intail'd upon the Posterity of the Earl of *Strangwell*, from whom by his Grand-daughters were derived the *Mortimers*, the *Bruces*, and other Families of good Quality.

*Hugo de Lacy*, when he had fixed himself in the Government of *Meath*, by a Grant from King *Henry* the Second, most injuriously treated *Clan Colmain* and the Nobility and Gentry of that Country: He put as many to the Sword as were Persons of any Distinction; and reduc'd the Inhabitants to the utmost Distress. These Barbarities procured him the Hatred of the People, insomuch that a young Gentleman of *Meath* resolved to destroy the Tyrant; and the better to execute his Purpose, he came to a Fort that *Hugo* was raising at *Diarmuigh*, and disguising himself in the Habit of a common Labourer, he found an Opportunity to accomplish his Design. *Stainburst* bestows an infamous Character upon this *English* Nobleman, and particularly charges him with ungovernable Lust, which he brutishly

richly gratified at all Adventures. But as the same Historian observes, his Death was severely prosecuted and reveng'd, by a Son of his own Name, upon the People of *Meath*; for the young *Hugo de Lacy*, supported by the Assistance of *John de Courcy*, fell upon the Inhabitants, plunder'd the Country, and committed the most cruel Outrages, that Fire and Sword, in the Hands of an enraged Enemy, could attempt and execute.

The Chronicle above cited gives an Account that *William Mac Aldelmel* was of a malicious and cruel Disposition, was miserably covetous, and the most fickle, false hearted and inconstant of Men. Among other Acts of Oppression he violently seized upon a Manor of Land, that was possess'd by the Children of *Maurice Fitz Gerald*, which was their lawful Right and Inheritance; and to whom this *William* bore an irreconcilable Hatred.

catel con-  
nac 7 catel  
enobledg  
anyo 78.

The old Annals of *Ireland* expressly mention, that when *William Mac Aldelmel* held the Command of *Limerick* by Commission from the King of *England*, there arose a violent Contest between two Princes of the Line of the *O Connor's* that were Brothers, concerning the Government of the Province of *Conacht*. The Name of these Rivals were *Cathall Carrach*, and *Cathall Crobbdearg*; and the Historian relates, that *William Fitz Aldelmell* espoused the Cause of *Cathall Carrach*, and *John de Courcy* profess'd himself on the other Side, and declared in favour of *Cathall Crobbdearg*. Forces were raised, and many Encounters happen'd, and the Province was miserably plunder'd by both Parties: In this Dispute the principal Nobility of *Conacht* were destroy'd, but at last the Controversy was ended by a decisive Battel that was fought courageously by the *Irish* and the *English* on both Sides, and Victory was for some Time in Suspense, but the Forces of *Cathall Carrach*, in the End, received a general Defeat, and he himself was slain. After this Battel *William Fitz Aldelmell* built a strong Castle for his Security at *Mileach O Madden*, which he fortified with a good Guard, and then returned to *Limerick*.

*Cathall Crobbdearg* laid close Siege to this Garrison, and continued his Attack with that Vigour, that the Party within were apprehensive the Castle would be taken, and every Man of them put to the Sword. To avoid this military Execution they stole away by Night, and

## I R E L A N D



and fled for Protection to *William Aldelmel* to *Limerick Cathall* in the Morning finding the Fort without Defence, set it on Fire, and rased it to the Ground: *Aldelmel* after this Misfortune raised fresh Troops, and when he had completed his Numbers, he led them into the Province of *Conacht*, where he raged in a most hostile Manner, and plundering the Country, he found Booty of immense Value. But Cruelty was the predominant Passion which this Nobleman resolv'd to gratify; he therefore put all that he found to the Sword without Distinction of Clergy and Laity, and demolished all the consecrated Places, and destroy'd most of the religious Houses throughout the Province. For these impious and inhuman Practices he was prosecuted by the Discipline of the Church, and solemnly excommunicated by the Clergy of *Conacht*. This Transaction stands upon Record in a Book of the Annals of *Ireland*, written about three hundred Years ago. This Chronicle is of undisputed Authority, and is commonly known by the Name of the *Speckled Book* of *Mac Eogain*, and in the *Irish* Language call'd *Lebbar Breac*. The same Author observes likewise that the Vengeance of Heaven pursued this Oppressor, *William Aldelmel*, in a wonderful Manner, and fixed such Distortions and strange Diseases upon his Body, that were utterly incurable; so that he died in a most deplorable Manner, without any Symptoms of Remorse or Repentance; and was depriv'd of the decent Rites of Christian Burial; for his Body was carried to a Village, whose Inhabitants he had murder'd, and thrown into a Pit in unhallow'd Ground, from whence it was never removed.

Near the same Time there arose a violent Difference between *John de Courcy*, and *Hugo de Lacy* the younger, that was carried on with great Passion and Animosity on both Sides. In this Contest most of the principal Nobility and Gentry of *Ulster*, and the Country of *Meath*, lost their Lives, and the People were dreadfully plunder'd. But in the End *John de Courcy* was taken Prisoner by *Hugo*, who charg'd him with treasonable Practices against the Crown of *England*, and therefore he deliver'd him into the Hands of the *English*, who undertook to support their Allegations, and prove the Accusation against him. *De Courcy* was accordingly sent into *England* to answer the Treason he was charg'd with, and as soon as he arriv'd the King commanded him



to be laid in Irons; but he was soon deliver'd from his Imprisonment, and not only fully pardon'd, but receiv'd a License to return if he pleas'd and try his Fortune again in *Ireland*. For this purpose he set to Sea, but was repuls'd into *England* fourteen Times by Storms and bad Weather; but nothing discouraged (as *Stanhurst* relates in his Chronicle) he again weigh'd Anchor, but he was encounter'd by a violent Tempest and driven upon the Coasts of *France*, where he landed, and in that Country he ended his Life.

The above cited Annalist gives an Account that an *English* Gentleman of the Family of the *Courcy's* had fixed himself in *Ireland*, and was treacherously slain by *Hugo de Lacy* and his Brother *Walter*, who conspir'd his Death. To revenge this Action, the Relations of the Deceased took up Arms, and many Misfortunes arose from this Difference, and such Heart-burnings between the two Families, that could never be reconciled. Their mutual Animosities were at length carried to that Height, that they affected the Peace of the whole Island, insomuch that King *John* of *England* was oblig'd to transport a numerous Army, which being join'd with several Bodies of the *Irish*, enter'd the Country of *Meath* in Order to suppress the Quarrel, and punish the Family of *Hugo de Lacy*, who had been the Aggressor. *Hugo* had quick Intelligence of the March of the King's Forces, and fled with his Followers for Safety to *Carrick Feargus*. He was persued close, and being in immediate Danger, the two Brothers privately went on Ship-board and sail'd into *France*. In that Country it was necessary they should conceal their Quality, and for that Purpose they disguised themselves in a mean Dress, and hired themselves as Labourers to work in the Garden of an Abbot in the Country of *Normandy*. In this Obscurity they remained for some Time, but weary of their hand Service, and desirous to return to their own Country, they at length found an Opportunity to discover themselves to their Master; When they had made known to him the Circumstances of their Misfortunes, they intreated him that he would intercede for them to the King of *England*, and endeavour to obtain their Pardon. The Abbot immediately undertook the good Office, and not only prevail'd that they should be forgiven, but that they should be restored to their Estates. The Brothers under this Security return'd to *Ireland*;

and



and *John* the King of *England* not long after died in the Year of *Christ* one thousand two hundred and sixteen.

In the Reign of *Henry* the third, King of *England*, very violent Wars were carried on between *Hugo de Lacy* and *William Marshall*, infomuch that by the Hostilities on both Sides the Countrey of *Meath* was almost destroy'd; and many of the *Irish* Nobility, who engaged in this Dispute, lost their Lives. The same *William Marshall* fought *Meills Fitz Henry* in many Battels with various Success, and by these intestine Broils the two Provinces of *Munster* and *Leinster* were plunder'd, and the Inhabitants reduced to the utmost Miseries.

*Hanner* observes in his Chronicle, that *William Marshall* was publickly excommunicated by the Bishop of *Fearns*, because he had seized upon a Manor of Land that was his and refused to restore it. Under this Sentence that cruel *Englishman* died in his own Country, and the divine Vengeance severely chastised him for his Sacrilege and other Impieties; for out of five Sons not one survived to enjoy the cursed Acquisitions of the Father, who died childless, with a Brand upon his Memory that will never be worn out.

The above said *Meills*, who was of a cruel and merciless Disposition, and committed great Outrages upon the Natives. Among other Hostilities, he led his Troops to *Cluain Mac Nois*, and laying close Siege to it for twelve Days; he took it by Storm, and put all he met with o the Sword. The Houses were plunder'd, and the Provisions and Cattle that they found were carried off. Nothing however sacred escaped the Fury of the Soldiers; Churches and religious Houses were pillaged, and all their Ornaments and consecrated Plate they esteem'd as lawful Booty. These barbarous and wicked Hostilities were practised by the *English* wherever they came, and the whole Island was almost destroy'd by their continual Devastations. *Lismore* and the Liberties of it were plunder'd (as the Chronicles of *Stainbarfk* expressly testify) by *Hermon Morry*, and *Redmond Delagrose*; though it must be confess'd that *Henmoh* before he died was struck with Remorse for all the Cruelties he had acted; and as an Atonement, he assumed the Habit of a Monk, and built the Abbey of *Dun Broith* in

the County of *Wexford*, in the Year of *Christ* one thousand two hundred seventy nine. This Nobleman had been very active in reducing the *Irish*, and was concern'd in many wicked and unwarrantable Practices; but what made the deepest Impression upon his Mind was his being concern'd with *William Fitz Aldelmell* in plundering the Churches of *Inis Catha*, and alienating the Revenues belonging to their own Use.

eoḡad Gall  
 17 Gaobioi  
 7 do Gaobioi  
 Gall anyo.

bay Riog  
 eondaf oah  
 an ro.

The *Irish* were at length enraged by these insupportable Oppressions; for when they observ'd that the *English* instead of propagating the Religion of *Christ*, and reforming the rugged Manners of the People, had nothing in View but Plunder and Booty, and that Churches and Monasteries were not exempt from their covetous and sacrilegious Attempt, they form'd a Design to free themselves from such merciless Auxiliaries, and to drive them out of the Island; for this Purpose the principal of the *Irish* Nobility applied themselves to *O Connor Maonmughe* King of *Conacht*, and offer'd to raise him to the Sovereignty of the Island, if he would but assist to expell these Foreigners and restore Liberty to his Country. The first who made these Proposals to the King of *Conacht*, was *Daniel O Bryen* King of *Limerick*, who was followed in the same generous Design by *Roger*, the Son of *Dunsleibhe* King of *Ulster*, *Daniel Mac Carry* King of *Desmond*, *Maolseachluin Beag* King of *Meath*, and by *O Ruorke* King of *O Broin* and *O Connaine*. But before any Resolutions were formed upon this Scheme, *O Connor* the King of *Conacht* was unfortunately kill'd by an Accident at *Dan Leoga* in *Johb Maine* where he kept his Court.

It is evident from what has been hitherto observ'd, that the Tyranny, the Oppression, and many Cruelties perpetrated by the *English* upon the native *Irish*, were the Cause of that Disaffection that appear'd in general throughout the Island. The Inhabitants were upon all occasions made a Sacrifice of, and when the *English* quarrell'd among themselves, whatever Party succeeded, the Natives were sure to be the Sufferers. The Pride, Ambition and Covetousness of those Foreigners were perfectly insupportable; they offer'd outrageous Violence to the Law of Nations and the received Usages of Mankind; and therefore it is not to be admir'd that the *Irish* made frequent Attempts to depose their Lordly Masters, and shake off a Yoke that they were not able to bear.

bear. The *English* Government in *Ireland*, had it been administer'd with Discretion and good Policy, would have been well received by the Inhabitants, who naturally are a submissive and obedient People, and esteem the Authority of the Laws as sacred, when they are executed with Moderation and Prudence. And this Character is consistent with what *John Davis* observes, in the last Leaf of his *Irish* History. There is no Nation or People under the Sun that doth love equal and indifferent Justice better than the *Irish*, in case it would proceed against themselves in Justice, so as they may have the Proportion and Benefit of the Law, when upon any just Occasion they require it. It was the Opinion we perceive of this Author, that the Seeds of Disobedience were not naturally planted in the People of *Ireland*; but the Oppressions they suffer'd by the Tyranny of the *English* Commanders made them desperate, and urg'd them on to Attempts, which they would never have thought of, had they been well used, and treated with that Tenderness and Humanity which the Circumstances of their Case so justly deserv'd.

Notwithstanding what has been said of the Cruelties and sacrilegious Acts of some of the *English*, it must be observ'd that many of those Foreigners, who came into *Ireland*, were Persons of different Qualities, (from those five superior Officers above-mentioned.) Many of them were Men of Virtue and strict Piety, who promoted the Service of God and the Cause of Religion by erecting Churches and Monasteries, and bestowing large Revenues upon them for their Support. And God rewarded their Charity and Acts of Mercy with particular Marks of his Favour, and not only blessed them in their own Persons, but in a noble and worthy Posterity, who now inherit their Estates, and deserve an honourable Mention in this History. The principal Families now remaining, who descended lineally from the *English*, who first arrived in the Island, are the *Fitz Gerald*s, the *Burkes*, *Butlers*, *Barrys*, *Courcys*, *Bellews*, *Roches*, *Powers*, *Fitz Maurices*, *Pierces*, *Gracies*, *Prindergasts*, *Flemings*, *Purcells*, *Prestons*, *Nugents*, *Daltons*, *Lacys*, *Walsbes*, *Tobins*, *Sertells*, *Blanfields*, *Berminghams*, *Condons*, *Canilons*, *Canrwells*, *Devereuxs*, *Darcyes*, *Rices*, *Kannyns*, *Verdons*, *Neagles*, *Walls*, *Bagotts*, *Bagnalls*, *Supples*, *Browns*, *Trants*, *Galways*, *Goulds*, *Skiddys*, *Ter-*

ad hanc  
o cūe gall  
cū an eipū  
anyo.

rys, Terrills, Stritches, Wolfes, Picketts, Ruffals, Gibbons, Dondons, Raymonds, and many others.

But the Families of *English* Descent that are now flourishing in *Ireland*, will be taken Notice of in a more proper Place, where an Account will be given of their Intermariages with the *Irish* Nobility, of the Estates they are possess'd of, and the memorable Exploits they have performed. This will be the Subject of the third Part of this History which will be publish'd, if properly encourag'd, and deduced with great Care and Fidelity, from the Reign of *Henry* the Second to the present Times. The Coat of Arms of each Family will be inserted, the Wars between the *English* and *Irish* will be related faithfully, and all Transactions of Note impartially recorded, in Order to complete (whatever never yet appear'd) a true History of *Ireland*.

*The End of the second Book.*





*An ACCOUNT of the spreading BRANCHES of the Posterity of MILESIVS, and his Uncle ITH, the Son of BREOGAN.*

**T**HERE are some Chronicles of *Ireland* which assert, that there are twelve several Tribes of free Gentlemen among the *Irish*; six of *Leath Modha* and six of *Leath Cuinn*. The six Families of *Leath Modha* are these, *Dail Eogain*, *Dalgaise*, *Dail Bhfiachach*, *Dail Ceide*, *Dail Mburinne*, and *Dail Dairine*. The six Families that belong to *Leath Cuinn* are reckon'd thus, *Dail Cuinn*, *Dail Cein*, *Dail Naruidhe*, *Dail Bhfiathach*, *Dail Riada*, and *Dail Niachuirb*; but this Account has but little Authority, nor do we design to follow it in explaining the Branches of the Posterity of *Milesius*, but speak particularly of the three Sons of *Milesius*, who left Issue behind them, viz. *Heber Fionn*, *Ir* and *Heremon*, and likewise of the Descendants from *Ith* the Uncle of *Milesius* abovementioned.

It is to be observ'd in this Place, that there were six Slaves, who came into *Ireland*, whose Genealogies ought not to be inquired after, though it must be confess'd that some of them were *Irish*, but others were not. The first Sort of them were the Remnant of the *Firbolgs* and the *Tuatha de Dananns*; the Second were such as left their own Country, and though descended from Families of Note, yet submitted to pay Tribute to other Powers. The third were such whose Estates were conquer'd; and they themselves forced to live in a servile Subjection to their Enemies. The fourth were such Gentlemen, who lost their Lives and forfeited their Estates



Estates for capital Offences. The fifth were such as descended from hired Soldiers and Auxiliaries, who left Issue behind them in *Ireland*. The sixth were such as came into the Island as Drudges and Slaves, when the *Milesians* first settled in the Country. The Posterity of these six Tribes are as it were perfectly extinct in the Country, nor is it to be wonder'd at, if it be considered that when *Tuathal Teachtmair* return'd from his Exile in *Scotland*, and obtain'd the Sovereignty of the Island, he extirpated these rascally People for murdering the *Irish* Nobility, (as mention'd in the foregoing History) and destroy'd them in five and twenty Battels in *Ulster*, in twenty five in *Leinster*, in twenty five in *Conacht*, and in twenty five in *Munster*: And if any of them happen'd to escape, they were esteem'd of so base and ignominious an Extract, that they were beneath the Regard of the publick Antiquaries, who never condescended to record their Genealogies; nor was it lawful for them to take Notice of their Pedigrees under the severest Penalties: So that if any of the Posterity of these rascally Clans pretend to give a successive Account of their Descents, they have no Authority to support them but their own Insolence, and therefore they are not to be regarded.

What properly falls under Consideration in this Place, are the principal Branches of the noble and chief Families of the *Irish* or *Gadelian* Race, and for the sake of Method we shall begin with the Posterity of *Heber Fionn*, because he was the eldest Brother of the Sons of *Milesius*, who left Issue behind him in *Ireland*; though it must be observ'd that we shall not be strictly confin'd to this Order, but deduce likewise in a direct Line other noble Families of *Ireland*, who did not originally descend from this royal Stock, but advanc'd themselves by a Superiority of Virtue and Courage above others, who perhaps could boast of a nobler Extraction.

By the preceding History it appears, that the younger Brothers more often acquired the Monarchy of the Island and the Government of the Provinces than the elder. To prove this, a few Examples will be sufficient. It is certain that the Sovereignty of *Ireland* oftner fell into the Hands of the Posterity of *Heremon*, who was the younger Brother of the Sons of *Milesius*, that left Issue, than of *Heber Fionn*, who was the eldest Son; and that there were more *Irish* Monarchs of the Posterity of *Cobhthaig*

*Caolmbreac*,

*Caolmbreac*, the Son of *Ugaine More*, than of the Line of *Laogaire Luirc*, who was the elder Brother. The Posterity of *Niall* the Hero of the nine Hostages more frequently sat upon the Throne of *Ireland*, notwithstanding he was the youngest, than the Seed of any of his four elder Brothers. The Crown of the Province of *Conacht* oftner descended to the Family of *Duach Galaeb* the youngest Son of *Bryen*, the Son of *Eochaidh*, than to the Line of the three and twenty Brothers that were born before him. The Province of *Leinster* likewise had more Kings of the Posterity of *Fiachad Baiceada*, the youngest Son of *Cathaoir More*, than of the Family of his nine elder Brothers. So that since neither the Monarchy of *Ireland*, nor the Government of the Provinces, did descend in an Hereditary Line, but was always bestow'd upon the most worthy and deserving, the Method I shall follow will be to trace the Genealogies of the most noble Families from whatever Root they sprung, and to derive every Branch from its own proper Stem, with that Fidelity and Exactness as can justly be expected through so many Ages, and so long a Distance of Time from their several Originals.

F I N I S.



[illegible]

A. V. S.

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F I N I S





# THE G E N E A L O G Y Of the P O S T E R I T Y of H E B E R F I O N N,

The Eldest of the Sons of King *Milesius*, of *Spain* that left Issue. First we begin with the Seed of *Eogan More*, Son of *Oilioll Olum*, who had three Sons that left Issue, viz. *Eogan More*, *Cormac Cas*, and *Kian*; and there lives no more of the *Hiberian Race* but such as descended from the said three Sons of *Oilioll Olum*.

## The PEDIGREE of Mac Carty More.

**D**aniel, the first Earl,  
Daniel an Dromuid,  
Cormac Laighrach,  
Teige Liath,  
Daniel an Dana,  
Teige na Mainistreach,  
Daniel. This Daniel had a Brother whose Name was Diarmuid More. Muscroidhe, from whom descended the noble Lords of Muskery and Egan of Buid Mainge from whom the Mac Carty of Cluan Mao-lain, and Molahif descended.  
Charles,  
Daniel Oge, from whom Clan Daniel Roe: From Diarmuid Trallee, another Brother of the said Daniel, descended the honourable Family of Mac Finins of Cethirne.  
Daniel Roe of Nois Breath,  
Cormac Fionn, from whom descended the noble Families of the Mac Cartys of Alla, and Kings of Desmond, and Daniel from another Brother of the said Cormac descended Daniel God, from whom descended Mac Carty Riabhach, and the Nobles that descended from him in Carbury.  
Daniel More na Carra,  
Diarmuid na Cille Baine, from whom descended Teige Roe na

Sgairte.  
Cormac Muighthamhach, from Teige, this Cormac's Brother, descended the honourable Family of Mac Auliff.  
Muircadhach,  
Carthach, from whom the Mac Cartys are called:  
Justin, from his Brother Murchadh sprung the noble Family of Eallaghain.  
Donough,  
Callaghan Cassiel,  
Busadhach,  
Lachena,  
Artgaille,  
Sneadhufu, from Fogarach Sneadhufu's Brother, descended the Family of the Fionnguin.  
Dongaille,  
Daogusa,  
Nadtraoch,  
Colgan,  
Faibhe Flann, from Florence, a Brother of this Faibhe Flann descended the noble Familie of the O Sullivan More, and O Sullivan Beara; the Munster Book or Chronicle, observes that Florence was an elder Brother than Faibhe.  
Aodh Dubh,  
Crimhthan,  
Feidhlím from Eochaidh, the Brother of this Feidhlím descended the honourable Family of O Keefe, and from another Brother whose Name was Eana

descended the ancient Family of O Daly in Munster.  
Aongus,  
Nadtraoch, from whose Brother Cas, Son of Corc, descended the following noble Families, viz. O Donoghoe of Glina, and O Donoghoe of Glina, and all the Tribes and Septs of the O Mahonys in the Counties of Cork and Kerry, from Cairbre Luachra, another Brother of Nadtraoch, descended the ancient and noble Familie of the Moriartys.  
Corc,  
Luighneach, from Daire Cearb, the Brother of this Luighneach, descended the ancient and honourable Families of the O Donavan, the O Connail, O Cullilan in Cairbry. From Fiacha Fingine, Son to the said Daire descended the Hehirs, Meighans, Davorets, and O Treallaigh, and O Garvan,  
Oilíoll Flan Beag,  
Fiachadh Muilleanhan,  
Eogan More,  
Oilíoll Olum,  
Modha Nuagatt,  
Modha Neid,  
Deirghine,  
Eanda Modhaoín,  
Loich More,  
Moleibhis,  
Muircadhach Muchna,

Eochaidh

Eochaidh Garbh,  
 Duach Donn Dalta Deaghaidh;  
 Cairbre Luifgeathen,  
 Luifgeach Luaigne,  
 Fionnabhar,  
 Niadhfeadhmain,  
 Adamar Folchaoine;  
 Fircorb,  
 Modheorb,  
 Cobhthaig Caomh,  
 Reachra Rioghdearg,  
 Luifgeach Laige,  
 Eachach,  
 Oileolla Fionn,  
 Art,  
 Luifgeach Lambdearg,  
 Eochach Vaircas,  
 Luifgeach Jarduinn,  
 Eana Dearg,  
 Duach Fionn,  
 Seadhna Jonraic,  
 Breas Riogh,  
 Art Imloich,  
 Feidhlim,  
 Rothachtach,  
 Roan,  
 Failbhe,  
 Cas Cead Chaingeach,  
 Faldergoid,  
 Muineamoin,  
 Cas Cloathach,  
 Airgeo Arda,  
 Rothachtach,  
 Rofa,  
 Glas,  
 Fionn Glas,  
 Connall,  
 Heber Fionn,  
 Milefius, King of Spain,  
 Bille, King of Spain,  
 Bratha,  
 Deagatha,  
 Bratha,  
 Deagatha, Lord of Gothia,  
 Alloid, Lord of Gothia,  
 Nugatt, Lord of Gothia,  
 Neannall, Lord of Gothia,  
 Faobhar Glas, Lord of Gothia,  
 Heber Glunn Fionn, Lord of  
 Gothia,  
 Lambhonn,  
 Adnamoin,  
 Tait,  
 Ogamhain,  
 Beogamhuin,  
 Heber Scot,  
 Sru,  
 Eafiu,  
 Gadelas,  
 Niull,  
 Feniufa Farfo, King of Scythia,  
 and first Founder of the univer-  
 sal Schools at the Plain of  
 Magh Seannair,  
 Baath,  
 Mhogog,  
 Japhet,  
 Noah, &c.

Son of

Son of

The present Earl of *Clan-*  
*carty's* PEDIGREE TO  
*Oilioll Olum.*

**R**obert, Lord Muskerry,  
 Justin, and Lady Charlot  
 the Children of  
 Donogh Mac Carty, Earl of  
 Clan Carty, who has been in  
 Exile since King James the

Second Time; but now, 1722  
 recalled.

Cellaghan,  
 Donogh, Earl of Clan Carty,  
 General of the King's Forces in  
 Munster against Cromwell the  
 Usurper, and was the last that  
 laid down Arms in Ireland,  
 A. D. 1652.

Cormac Oge, Lord Muskery,  
 twenty four Years, and was the  
 first Lord Viscount, he died in  
 London, the 20<sup>th</sup> of February  
 Anno 1640.

Cormac, Lord Muskery for 33  
 Years, died in Blarney, A. D.  
 1616, from him sprang Teige,  
 Ancestor of the Cartys of Ag-  
 lais, and Daniel, Ancestor of  
 the Cartys of Carrignavar.

Diarmuid Lord Muskery for se-  
 veral Years, died A. D. 1570,  
 he was Ancestor of the Cartys  
 of Inisrahell.

Teige Lord Muskery 25 Years,  
 died A. D. 1565; from him  
 sprang Cormac, Lord of  
 Muskery seven Years, who is  
 Ancestor of the Cartys of Court  
 Breack, and Ancestor to Charles  
 Mac Carty of Baileia Caille  
 More, and Clough Roe.

Cormac Oge Lath, who fought  
 and defeated the Earl of Des-  
 monde de Clathar and Moor  
 Abby, he performed many va-  
 liant Exploits, and died A. D.  
 1539.

Cormac Ladir, Lord Muskery  
 40 Years, he built the Castle of  
 Blarney, Killeen, and Carrig-  
 na Muck, with the Abbots of  
 Killeen, with 5 Churches.

Teige, Lord Muskery 30 Years,  
 he died A. D. 1448; from him  
 sprang the Ancestor of the Car-  
 tys of Drishbane.

Cormac, Lord Muskery seven  
 Years, died A. D. 1374.

Diarmuid More, first Lord Mus-  
 kery, and ruled 14 Years. He  
 was killed by the Mahonys, A.  
 D. 1367; from him sprang  
 Feilim, Ancestor of the Cartys  
 of Tuath na Droman, and  
 Donogh, Ancestor of the Car-  
 tys of Cloinada.

Cormac Mac Carty More; from  
 him sprang Diarmuid More,  
 great Ancestor of the House of  
 Muskery, and Owen another  
 of his Sons, Ancestor of the  
 Cartys of Cois Mainga, from  
 Donough, the Cartys of Ard-  
 canaghty.

Daniel Oge Mac Carty More,  
 from him sprang Diarmuid  
 Tallee, Ancestor of the Mac  
 Finnens, and the Cartys of  
 Glan Erought, and Cian Da-  
 niel Roe.

Daniel Roe the Mac Carty More.  
 Cormac Fionn was Mac Carty  
 More, from him sprang Do-  
 nough, Ancestor of the Cartys  
 of Duthalla, and the Mac Do-  
 noghs; from Donough another  
 Son, descended Mac Daniel in  
 Barritus; from another Son,  
 Cian Daniel Fionn, and from  
 another the Cartys of Aglais.

Daniel More was Mac Carty  
 More, from whose Son Daniel  
 Oge sprang Mac Carty Re-  
 agh.

Diarmuid was Mac Carty More,  
 called King of Cork, and was  
 the first of this Line that yield-  
 ed to King Henry II; from  
 him sprang Cian Teige Roe.  
 Cormac, King of Munster for  
 fifteen Years; he was slain by  
 the Infatigation of Turlough O  
 Begen, Grand, Son to Bryen  
 Boiromhe.

Muireadhach from whose Brother  
 descended the Mac Auliffes.  
 Carthach from whom the Name  
 Carty or Mac Carty descended.

Justin, King of Munster, from  
 his Brother Mithrough, the mo-  
 the Family of O Callaghan  
 of Cluan Meen descended.  
 Donough, King of Munster.  
 Callaghan Caille, R. M.

Buadhachan,  
 Lachna,  
 Artgalie,  
 Snelmulla.

Dongale, from this Dongale in  
 the seventh Generation descend-  
 ed Riordan, Ancestor of the  
 Riordans.

Daogulls,  
 Nathaech,  
 Colgan,  
 Failbhe Flan, R. M.  
 Aodha Dubh, R. M.  
 Cromhthan, R. M.  
 Feidhlim.

Waugus, R. M.  
 Nadraoch, R. M. from the Son  
 of this Nadraoch descended O  
 Lyne, Irish O Laidhin,  
 Corc, R. M.

Luifgeach, R. M.  
 Oibolla Flann Beg, R. M.  
 Fiachadh Mullachan, R. M.  
 Eogen Mor.

Oiliolla Olum, R. M. from this  
 Oiliolla Olum's spreading Bran-  
 ches descended the following Fa-  
 milies according to the Munster  
 Annals, viz. O Shea, the  
 Shealbach, the Maohains,  
 the Giarans, the Croncens,  
 and the Gaimhins, &c.

Modha Nugatt, R. M.  
 Modha Neid,  
 Deirg,  
 Deirgrhine,  
 Eanda Munchaoin,  
 Laoch More,

Mofebhis,  
 Muireadhach Muchna,  
 Eochaidh Garbh,  
 Duach Don Dalta Deaghaidh, Mo-  
 narch of Ireland, A. M. 3923

vide Mac Carty More's Ped-  
 igree. The lineal Line from  
 this Monarch down to Oilioll  
 Olum, were mostly Kings of  
 Munster.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**The O Sullivan More's  
 PEDIGREE to Oilioll  
 Olam, Ancestor of the  
 Iberian Race.**

**D**aniel,  
 Owen Roe,  
 Daniel,  
 Daniel na Sgradaidhe,  
 Daniel,  
 Roger. *This Roger had a Brother named Macrath, from whom the Maccraths of Cappanocilly got the Name.*

Dunlaig,  
 Buadhaigh,  
 Boarnard,  
 Mortough the Great,  
 Dunlaing,  
 Giolla Mucoda, *aq' the Name.*  
 Daniel the Great,  
 Maccrath,  
 Buadhaigh,  
 Cathal,  
 Hugh,  
 Buadhaigh from Achero,  
 Lorcan,  
 Sullivan, *from whom the Name derived.*

Maollura,  
 Eighren,  
 Morrough,  
 Dubhfhionnach,  
 Flann Robba,  
 Fiacha the Champion,  
 Seaghauly,  
 Florence,  
 Hugh Dubh,  
 Cromthan,  
 Feidhlim,  
 Aongus,  
 Nadraoch,  
 Core,  
 Luigheach,  
 Fiacha Mailllethan,  
 Eogan More,  
 Oilioll Olum,  
*The worthy Family of the Maccrehobans descended from O Sullivan More, &c.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
**The GENEALOGY  
 and spreading Branches  
 of Gormac Cas, second  
 Son of Oilioll O-  
 lam.**

**The PEDIGREE of O  
 Bryen, Earl of Thum-  
 mond.**

**H**enry, Earl of Thummond,  
 Donogh,  
 Connor Toige from Dromore,  
 Sir Domhnall from Carrigan  
 Choultaig,  
 Donogh. *This Donogh had five  
 Brothers, viz, Domhnall, Mor-  
 rough, Marough, Toige and  
 Torough.*

Connor. *This Connor had a  
 Brother called Morrough, the  
 first Earl of Thummond, and*

**The Ancestor of the Barons of  
 Inchiquin,**

Turlough,  
 Teige,  
 Turlough,  
 Bryen Chatha an Aonuing, *from  
 whom descended the O Bryen of  
 Cumrach.*  
 Mahon Maonmuhighe from Con-  
 nor the Son of this Mahon de-  
 scended the Bryens of Carrig  
 O Goiniol.

Mortough,  
 Turlough,  
 Teige Caoiluisge *from whose Bro-  
 ther Bryen Roe descended O  
 Bryen Roe.*

Connor na Siubhdain,  
 Donogh Cairbreach,  
 Domhnall More. *This Domh-  
 nall More was the last King of  
 Cathel and Limerick, from him  
 descended Confindins and Ly-  
 faght, Irish, Giolla Jafaght.*

Turlough,  
 Diarmuid, *from this Diarmuid's  
 eldest Brother named Mortough  
 descended Mac Mahon of  
 Thummond according to the  
 Dailgais's own Political Chro-  
 nicle.*

Turlough,  
 Teige *from whose Brother de-  
 scended the O Bryens of Cua-  
 nach and Eatharlach.*

Bryen Boiroimhe. *This Bryen  
 Boiroimhe had six Sons, viz,  
 Morough, Teige, Donough,  
 Domhnall, Connor, and Flan;  
 none of them had Issue but Teige  
 and Dinis.*

Kennedy. *This Kennedy had  
 twelve Sons, and of all none had  
 Issue but Bryen, Dunchuain,  
 Eichiaruin, and Mahon, from  
 Bryen descended the O Bryens,  
 from Mahon descended O Beo-  
 lain Calics, Irish, O Catha-  
 saig, O Spelain, O Hanrag-  
 hain, O Sioldhachain, in Eng-  
 lish Sihon, Maccineiry, O  
 Congalagh, and O Tuama.  
 English, Twomy. Dunchu-  
 ain, Son of Kennedy had six  
 Sons, viz, two Kennedys, Ri-  
 agan, Longargan, Cellochair,  
 and Congalach; from one of  
 the Kennedys descended the  
 Conuings, from the other Ken-  
 nedy descended O Kennedy;  
 from Longargan came the  
 Longargains; from Celloch-  
 air came the Cellochoairs,  
 from Riagan came the Ri-  
 agains; from Eichiaruin came  
 the Hems, in Irish Eichiaruins,  
 and Magraths. Congalach died  
 Issueless.*

Lorcan from Coghrath, Son of  
 Lorcan, descended the following  
 Families, the O Hogain, O  
 Shennaghan, by some called  
 Fox, the Healy, the Mur-  
 rons, the Glothians, the Ain-  
 giodhas: From this Lorcan de-  
 scended the noble Family of the  
 O Bryens of Dubthair in Lein-  
 ster.

Lachina,  
 Core,  
 Anluan,

Mahon,

Turlough, *from whose Son Ailge-  
 nan descended O Meadhra,  
 English Mary; from him like-  
 wise descended the Arturhs, in  
 Irish Arturaigh.*

Cathal,  
 Aodh Caomh, *from whom the  
 Henreaghtys descended.*

Copall,  
 Eochaidh Ball Dearg descended O  
 Hicky, Irish O Hicidhe,

Carthan Fionn, *from another Son  
 of this Carthan Fionn named  
 Aongus descended the following  
 Families, viz, Louly, Irish  
 Loinnigh, Sexton, Irish Seaf-  
 nain, Humin, Cornucain,  
 Riady, Slarry, Breachta and  
 Toimraig, &c.*

Bloid, *from whose Brother Cailin  
 descended the noble Family of  
 Siol Aodha, i. e. Macnemara,  
 from whom sprang the Clanc-  
 chys; from Breann, another  
 Son to Bloid, sprang the Hur-  
 llys, Mullowlys, and Kear-  
 nys, &c.*

Cais. *This Cais had twelve Sons,  
 viz, Bloid, Cailin, Lughaidh,  
 Seadna, Aongus Ceann Ath-  
 rach, Cormac, Casthionn,  
 Caineach Aongus Ceann Ai-  
 tinn, Aodh, Loiscionn and  
 Dealbhaath; from Bloid sprang  
 the eldest Stock, from Cailin  
 sprang the afore said noble Fam-  
 ily of the Macnemars, and  
 from them the Grady's, the  
 Clanchys, and Clan Cailin;  
 from Aongus Ceann Athrach  
 sprang O Deand Brody, Irish  
 Macbruidesagha, and from A-  
 onngus Ceann Aitinn sprang the  
 Hibernans, the Neaghtains in  
 English Nortons, and the  
 Hartagans; from Hugh, Son of  
 Cais, sprang Mac Cochlain;  
 from Lughaidh, Son of Cais,  
 sprang the Dubbarshons and  
 the Conraois, in English call-  
 ed by some after the Name of  
 King, as also O Cuin in  
 Thummond; from Dailgais  
 descended Mac Leime, Anle,  
 Ailickha, Macnerbhing, Irish  
 Macanfairchne, O Mulqui-  
 ny, Irish O Mulchaoine, and  
 the O Healties in the County  
 of Limerick.*

Conull Eachluath,  
 Luigheach Mean,  
 Aongus Tirigh,  
 Firchuirb,  
 Modha Cuirb,  
 Cormac Cas,  
 Oilioll Olum.  
*Vide Mac Carty More's Pedigree.*

The

The PEDIGREE of Mac  
Mahon of Thummond.

**T** Eige,  
Turlough Roe,  
Teige,  
Turlough,  
Teige Oge,  
Teige More,  
Donogh na Glaice,  
Rudhrighe Buidhe,  
Diarmuid,  
Donogh Carrach,  
Murcuadh na Niongnadh. *This*  
*Morough was taken away by a*  
*Navy from Corca Baifcin, and*  
*was never heard of since. He*  
*left no more Issue after him but*  
*the said Donogh Carrach ag<sup>t</sup>*  
*the Mac Mahons.*  
Morough,  
Mahon, *from whom the Mac*  
*Mahons are so called.*  
Turlough,  
Teige,  
Bryen Boiroimbe,  
Kennedy,  
Lorcan,  
Lachtna,  
Corc,  
Anlusain,  
Mahon,  
Turlough,  
Cathal,  
Aodh Caomh,  
Conall,  
Eachach Baldearg,  
Carrthan Fionn,  
Bloid,  
Cais,  
Conull Eachluath,  
Luigheach Mean. *This Luig-*  
*heach Mean got Hostages from*  
*all Parts of Ireland he was so*  
*powerful.*  
Aongus Tireach,  
Firchuirb,  
Modha Cuirb,  
Cormac Cas,  
Oilioll Oluim,  
Vide O Bryen's Pedigree.

The GENEALOGY of  
the Macnemara of Ros  
Roe.

**D**aniel Donogh and Teige  
the Sons of  
Siodha Macnemara,  
Florence,  
Florence,  
Lochlóinn,  
Florence,  
Siodha Cam,  
Mac Con,  
Conneadhá,  
Mac Con,  
Lochlóinn,  
Conneadhá More,  
Niall,  
Connara,  
Donal,

Connara, *from whom the Macne-*  
*mara took that Name.*

Eana,  
Aifisia,  
Siodha an Eich Buidha,  
Maolciuicte,  
Colleart,  
Urthoile,  
Dungoile,  
Eogan,  
Athluinn,  
Feargail,  
Carrthach,  
Caisin,  
Cais,  
Conull Eachluath,  
Luigheach Mean,  
Firchuirb,  
Modha Chuirb,  
Cormac Cas,  
Oilioll Oluim.

Sir Daniell O Carroll's PE-  
DIGREE to Duach Donn  
Dalta Deagha Monarch  
of Ireland, according to  
Letters from Conacht.

**D**aniel and John Sons of  
Sir Daniel O Carroll by his  
Lady Elizabeth, eldest Daugh-  
ter of Thomas Jervise in the  
County of Southampton Esq.  
by his first Wife Elizabeth,  
Daughter of Sir Gilbert Clarke  
of Chyllothie in Derbyshire.  
*This Sir Daniel was by Patens*  
*created by the King of Spain, a*  
*Knights of the most military Or-*  
*der of St. Jago, for singular*  
*Services done to that Crown in*  
*the Time of War, he left the*  
*said Service of Spain in a Dis-*  
*gust, and afterwards had, by a*  
*Patent from Queen Anne of*  
*Happy Memory, the Rank of*  
*Knighthood, and under her au-*  
*spicious Reign was Colonel of a*  
*Regiment of Horse.*

John O Carroll at five Years of Age  
was removed by Oliver Cromwell  
into Conacht, thereby to destroy  
the Interest of his Family, who  
were in all Ages known to stand  
for the Liberties of their Coun-  
try. This John is married to  
Margaret Daughter of O Crean  
Sligoe, by his Wife Margret,  
Daughter to the Lord Berming-  
ham of At henry; by this Mar-  
riage that Family of O Carroll  
was doubly allied to the noble  
House of the Earl of Antrim,  
Earl of Clan Rickard, the  
Lord Dillon and Mayo, &c.

Daniel O Carroll, he was in  
great Esteem with King Charles  
the First, in whose Service he  
died, having rendered his Prince  
signal Services.

Donogh O Carroll, who was mar-  
ried to Dorothy, Daughter to  
O Kennedy, by Margaret O  
Bryen Ara, Daughter to More  
Carroll Elly of O'Neill Clana-  
buidhe, who had for Mother the

Daughter of the Earl of Ar-  
gile in the Highlands of Scot-  
land. This Donogh O Car-  
roll had thirty Sons and one  
Daughter by the said Dorothy  
his Wife the Dau. Name was  
More, who had been married  
to Robert O Carroll of Emly,  
of whom are many Issues. This  
Donogh presented his 30  
Sons in the Troop of Horse all  
accounted in Habitments of War  
to the Earl of Ormond, together  
with all his Intest for the Ser-  
vice of King Charles the First;  
most of those died in foreign Ser-  
vice, having followed the hard  
Fate of King Charles the Se-  
cond, &c.

Kian O Carroll the Second. In  
his Time two Brothers of the right  
Branch of Feargan Ainian or  
William Ower put a Garrison  
into the Leip, being Part of his  
Rights; also they gathered an  
Army on the Brink of the River  
Brislaugh: Upon which Kian  
marched with all his Forces a-  
gainst them, and joined Battle  
at a Place called Tomsha,  
where he routed them, and kill-  
ed the two Brothers; he then  
marched and laid Siege to the  
Castle of Lep, as Part of  
his Estate, but he was unfortu-  
nately killed at the Siege: He  
was married to O Mulagh-  
luinn, King of Meath's Daugh-  
ter, &c.

Thady the Fifth was married to  
Sara O Bryen Dau. to Teige  
More O Bryen, Brother to  
Donough More O Bryen Earl  
of Thummond, and to Sir  
Daniel O Bryen, Lord of  
Clare, and left Issue,  
Donough, who was the gallantest  
Horseman of his Time, and a  
great Soldier, was married to  
O Connor Fallie's Daughter,  
by whom he had Issue,

Mulruany the Fifth, who was cal-  
led the Great, was married to  
the King of Leinster's Daugh-  
ter, by whom he had many  
Daughters, who were all mar-  
ried to the prime Nobility of the  
Nation, one of whom was mar-  
ried to the Lord Muskerry, an-  
other to the Great Earl of Des-  
mond, &c. Mulruany died  
without Issue Male (but had  
one Son called Feargan  
Ainian) Predecessor of William  
Ower.

John had two Sons, Mulruany  
and Donogh the eldest.  
Mulruany na Feafoige the Fourth  
founded the fine Convent of  
Rostra for the Franciscan or  
Gray Friars, A.D. 1490; he  
married Bibiana, Daughter of  
O Demphy, Lord of Clannam-  
ler, by whom he had Issue,  
Thady the Fourth,  
Thady the Third,  
Roger,  
Mulruady the Third,  
Thady the Second,  
Finn the Second,  
Guillanbheallug.

Donough

Donough O Carroll the Great, King of Elly, and Oirgiall in the North, founded the famous Abbey of Melliford in the County of Louth, A. D. 1142, the Abbey of Newry, A. D. 1148, and Cnocknasingan Abbey, A. D. 1182. He was a pious Prince; he gave Ardmac many Jewels, as an Offering, and he left a glorious Character behind him to Posterity.

Mutruan, the Second,

Finn the First,

Donall,

Rioghbbhradan,

Concaine,

Maonuigh,

Carrol, from whom this ancient Family took the Name, given them by the pious Bryen Boi-roimhe, Monarch of Ireland, A. D. 1022. It was this Monarch that gave Surnames to all the Irish Families, and in Imitation of the same, the Germans, French, Italians, &c. in these Days began to fix Surnames to distinguish Families from one another: It was from this Carrol, that Elly the Royal was call'd Elly O Carrol, to distinguish it from all others,

Hugh,

Dubhlaoir,

Cnamhin,

Maonuigh,

Seachnusaich,

Aingeadha,

Maolruana,

Ultan,

Ailtine,

Lonsinn,

Indigh,

Feigh,

Tail,

Meaghair,

Amruidh,

Druidh,

Eile Rioghdearg the Royal, from whom the Country got the Name.

Eirc,

Sabhornuigh,

Jomgoin, from whose Brother

Teige sprang O Connor Cianachta.

Fionchaidh, from whose Brother

sprang the noble Family of O

Mcaghair.

Conia,

Teige, who had another Son, call'd Cormac Gaileang, from whom sprang the noble Families of O Hara, O Gara, as also a Family of the O Flanagan's, Dulchontas, Corcrans, and a Sept of the O Casies.

Kein the First,

Oilioll Olum,

Modha Nuagatt,

Modha Neid,

Deirg Deirgthine,

Eana Munchaoin,

Loigh More,

Muirceadhach Muchna,

Eochaidh Garbh,

Duach Donn Dalta Deaghadh,

Monarch of Ireland, A. M.

3912.

Cairbre,

Luig Learhan,

Luigbeach Luaigne,

Jonadmar,

Nisfeadhain,

Eadamair Folchaoin,

Firchuirb,

Modchuirb,

Cobthaigh Caomh,

Reachta Rioghdearg,

Luighcach Laigne,

Eochaidh,

Oiliolla Fionn,

Art,

Luidheach Laogadh,

Eochaidh Uairceas,

Luighcach Jardhoinn,

Eana Dearg,

Duach Fionn,

Seadhna Jonraige,

Breas Riogh,

Art Imloch,

Eilm,

Rothachtach,

Roan,

Faibhe Ilchortach,

Cais Ceid Chaingueach,

Failderoid,

Muineamhoin,

Cas Clothach,

Firarda,

Rothachtai,

Rofa,

Glas,

Nuagatt Deighlamh,

Eochaidh,

Faobhar Glas,

Commaol,

Heber Fionn,

Milefius, King of Spain,

Vide Mac Carty More's Pedigree.







THE  
G E N E A L O G Y  
OF THE  
P O S T E R I T Y of I R,

Son of King *Milesius*, two of *Ir's* Posterity that left Issue, viz. *Connall Cearnach*, and *Feargus*, Son of *Rofa Roe*; from *Connall Cearnach* sprang the noble Families of the *Magenis* and the *Moors*, *Irish*, *O Mordha*; from *Feargus*, *O Connor Kerry*, *O Connor Corcamroe*, and the *O Farrils* with their spreading Branches.

The *Magenis's* PEDIGREE.

Son of

**A** R T Roe,  
Aodha,  
Donall Oge,  
Donall More,  
Aodha,  
Art,  
Aodha,  
Art na Madhman,  
Mortough Riaganach,  
Eachmilcadh,  
Roger,  
Giolla Colluim,  
Duibhinnis,  
Aodha Ramhar,  
Flathbheartach,  
Eachmileadh,  
Aongus,  
Aodha,  
Eachmileadh,  
Aongus Oge,  
Aongus More, *from whom Magen is took that Name.*  
Eideadha,  
Laignein,  
Blathmhac,  
Donall,  
Connor,  
Breafal Bealcearg,  
Aodhain,  
Mongain,  
Sarain,  
Malne,  
Fothaigh,  
Connall, *from whose Brother*

Son of

Saran, *sprang Mac Cartain.*  
Caolbhaig,  
Croin Badhraoi,  
Eachach, *from whom Jobh Eachach got the Name.*  
Luigheach,  
Rofa,  
Jomchadha,  
Feidhlim,  
Cais,  
Fiachadh Aruidhe, *from whom Dail Aruidhe got that Name.*  
Aongus Gaibhnion, *from whom sprang Mac an Gaibhnion, in English, Smith, according to Magen's Annals.*  
Feargus Gaileang,  
Tiobruide Tirigh,  
Breafal Breac,  
Cirr Mail,  
Rochraoidh,  
Cathbhuidh,  
Giallachadh,  
Dunchadh,  
Fionchadh,  
Muireadhach,  
Fiachadh Fionamhnais,  
Irial Glunmear,  
Connall Cearnach, *from Laoiscach Ceann More, another Son of Connall, sprang the noble Family of O Mordha, in English, Moor, who were Kings and Lords of Leix; from the said Connall sprang likewise Mac Giollariabhaig, Mac an Bhaird, and the Lawlors.*

Son of

Amergin,  
Cais,  
Fachtua,  
Cathbhadh,  
Ciongus,  
Roger Magnus, *from whose other Son, Rofa Roe, sprang Feargus, Son of Rofa Roe.*  
Sithridh,  
Dubh,  
Fomhor,  
Airgiodmar,  
Siorlamh,  
Finn,  
Bratha,  
Labhradha,  
Cairbre,  
Ollamh Fodhla,  
Fiachadh Fionnsgothach,  
Seadhna Airt,  
Airtir,  
Eibhric,  
Eibber,  
Ir,  
*Milesius, King of Spain.*  
Vide Mac Carty More's Pedigree.

# The PEDIGREE of O Connor Kerry.

**J**ohn O Connor,  
Connor Bacach,  
Connor Fionn,

Connor,

John,

Connor,

Connor,

Connor,

Diarmuid,

Mahon,

Diarmuid Sluagach,

Mahon,

Corc,

Beathaig,

Connor,

Cathal,

Aodha,

Teige,

Roger,

Conluachra,

Diarmuid,

Connor,

Finn,

Maolfeachluin,

Floin Farna,

Colman,

Cobthaig,

Reachtubhrach,

Maoltuile,

Aodha,

Durtachta,

Seauig,

Reathach,

Fearba,

Jonchadha,

Eibhric,

Mochduine,

Ulaime,

Meifincon,

Sabhala,

Modha Airt,

Oirbhsonmar,

Eochadha,

Artri,

Aghnamuin,

Fiamhuin,

Dealbhnaoi,

Eana,

Lainne,

Ulfagh,

Tambain,

Ciar,

Feargus: This Feargus had three noble Princes of great Valour, and Conduct; the first and eldest was Ciar, who obtained a large Territory of Land, in the County of Kerry, from him sprang the noble Families of O Connor Kings of Kerry, as also descended from him the Scallans and Brofnaghans; from this Ciar, the County took the Name Clarruidhe, in English, Kerry; from Corc, the second Son of Feargus, sprang O Connor Kings of Corcamroe, O Loughlin, Kings of Buirtinn, and the Families O Cathil, Conway, in Irish, Condhubbh, Calie, Irish, Caisbiagh, Tillery, Irish, O Tiaghurna, Nestor, Irish, Macanaulir, O

Macachain, and O Tyn, and the Hargans and Flatberys of Thummond. From Conmac, the third Son of Feargus, sprang the noble Family O Farrill, Kings of upper Conmaicne, now County of Longfort, Remids, in Irish, Magranuill Kings of lower Conmaicne, and Dorcy, Irish, Magdhorchuidh, Mac Eochaidh, O Huallachain, Mac Senloich, O Morain, O Rodachain, English, O Rody, O Dubhain, English, O Duan, Mac Anoglaich, O Maining, Gilmer, Irish, Macgiollamhair, from Ir also sprang Kenny, Irish, O Cloonuidhe, otherwise called Mac an Chemuadh, Kennelly, Irish, O Clonfhiaoladh; Kertherays, Irish, Ceatherna, and Mac Eochaidh in Leinster, and Carrollans, &c. The chief of each noble Family in Ireland was always styled as King the only Title in use amongst the Irish to distinguish the Nobility from the inferior Gentry, until the English introduced those Titles of Honour, as Earl, Viscount, Baron, Knight, &c.



**The GENEALOGY of the Posterity of Heremon. Ugaine More, the Stock of this Princely Race, had but two Sons that left Issue, viz. Laogaire Lore, and Cobthaig Caolbreag; from Cobthaig descended the several Septs of the Race of Heremon in Leath Cuinn, and from Laogaire those of the same Race in Leinster.**

**The PEDIGREE of the great O'Neill to Heremon with all his spread- ing Branches.**

**J**ohn, Hugh, Feardorcha, Connan Bacach, Henry, Eogan, the Posterity of Feidhlím Roe part here with O'Neill. Niall Oge, Niall More, Aodha, Donall, Bryen Chatha an Duin, Niall Roe, Aodha an Maccaomh Toinleag, Mortough Moigh Line, Teige Ginne, Connor na Fiodhga, Donall an Togdanh, Aodha Athlamh, from whose Son Donnleibhe sprang Mac Suibh-

ne Fanar, and from him sprang Mac Swyny, Druach, and Mac Swyny Badhuine. Flathbheartach an Troilain, Mortough Midhe. Donall Ardmacach from whose Brother Aodha sprang Cian Aodha Bhuidhe, by other Mac Boyes. Mortough na Gobchall Gcoileann. Niall Glundubh, Aodh Fionnliath, Niall Calie, Aodha Dorndighe, Niall Fraich, from whose Brother Connor sprang O Kean, in Irish, O Cathain, Feargaic, Maolie Duin, Maol Fithrigh, Aodha Uairnrodnach, Donall lthealgach, Mortough, from whose Brother Maine sprang O Gormleaghadh. Muireadach, Eogan, from this Eogan, sprang the illustrious Family of O'Neill, Kings of Tir, Eogan, English, Titeoin, O Heodhasa, O Conallan, O Craoibhe, English, Gresh, Mullineux, Irish, Maolagair, O Maolmhuicil, English, Mulvihill, Horan, Irish, Clann Oulrain; the said Eoga had five Sons that had Issue, viz. Muireadach, Otiell, Feargus, Feidhlím, and Eochaidh Binnig; from Mortough, Son of Muireadach, sprang Maglachluin, in English, Mac Loughlin; from Mongan, Son of Muireadach, sprang the Donalys, and from Feargall, Son of Muireadach, sprang the Calfields, Irish, Cathinail; from Otiella, Son of Eogan, sprang Mac Giolla Kelly, and from Feidhlím, Son of Eogan, sprang O Dubhdhiarma, &c. Niall of the nine Hostages, who had seven Sons, viz. Laogaire, Eogan, Eanna, Cairbre, Maine, Conall Gulban, and Conall Creamhine; from Laogaire, Son of Niall, sprang O Conlivan, Irish, O Caoindhealbhan; from Eogan sprang the Families afore said; from Maine, Son of Niall, sprang the Sionach, O Hagain, O Roanain, Mac Conmeadha, in English, Mac Conmie, Uí Ineerge, Slaminis, in Irish, Samhain, Mulconry, Irish, Maolchonaire, Giobhlochains, Shiels Cathalans, the Breens, Irish, Muintier, Bhraoin, Murry, Cordhamna, O Cuinn, O Taidhgain, O Roanain, and Deignain, Irish, Dubhgeanain. From Conall Gulban, Son of Niall, sprang the renowned Family of O Donal, Kings of Tirconall, and from O Daniel sprang O Doharty, O Galaghar, and O Boyle, Irish, O Buidhill; from Conall Creamhine, Son of Niall, sprang O Maolachluin, Eana and Cairbre left no Issue.

From Fiachada, Son of Niall,  
sprang O Mulloy, O Maolm-  
huadh, Mageoghagan, and the  
Mac Cuilins, in Irish, Sliocht  
Geoilin, and O Huigian.

Eochaidh Muirgmeadhain.  
Muirtheadh Turigh,  
Fiacha Sreabhruinne,  
Cairbre Liffeachair,  
Cormac Ulfhada,  
Art Aonfhir,  
Conn Cead Chathach,  
Feidhlime Reachtmar,  
Tuathal Teachtmar,  
Fiachadh Fionnola,  
Fearadhach Fionn,  
Crimthan Niadhach,  
Lugh Riabhdearg,  
Mac na tri Bineambna,  
Eochaidh Feidiltoch,  
Finn,  
Finlogha,  
Roighnein Roe,  
Easamuin Eamhna,  
Blathachra,  
Labra Luirc,  
Eadhna Aighnach,  
Aongus Tuirmheach Teamh-  
rach,  
Eochaidh Folticathan,  
Oilioila Caisthialach,  
Conla Cruadh-Chelgach,  
Jaran Gleofathach,  
Meilge Molbhach,  
Cobthach Caolbreag,  
Ugaine More,  
Duach Laighrach,  
Fiacha Tolgrach,  
Muirtheadh Bolgrach,  
Simeon Breac,  
Aodhan Glas,  
Nuadh Fionnfail,  
Giallcha,  
Oilioila Olchaoim,  
Siorna Saogalach,  
Deia Rotbeachtai,  
Masin,  
Aongus Olmuchaigh,  
Fiacha Labhrune,  
Smiorguill,  
Eanbhotha,  
Tiagheramas,  
Follain,  
Eichriall,  
Iriall Faigh,  
Heremon,  
Milefus, King of Spain,  
Vide Mac Carty More's Pedigree.



#### O Domhnail's PEDIGREE.

**A**odha, Roger,  
Aodha,  
Maghnus,  
Aodha Dubh,  
Aodha Roe,  
Niall Garb,  
Turlough an Fhiona,  
Niall Garbh,  
Aodha,  
Donall Oge,  
Donall More,  
Eigneachain,  
Donogh,  
Donall,  
Aodha,

Teige,  
Cano,  
Cairbhar,  
Giolla Criod,  
Cairbhar,  
Donall, from whom O Doaill  
took that Name.  
Eigneachain,  
Dalaigh, from whom O Daly in  
Conacht took the Name: Others  
call them Siol Nialla.  
Mortough, this Mortough had  
two Brothers, viz. Maolduin,  
from whom sprang O Boyle in  
Irish, O Buadhail and Fiamen,  
from whom descended O Do-  
harty.

Feargus,  
Seadhna,  
Feargus Ceannfada,  
Seadhna,  
Conall Gulban,  
Niall of the nine Hostages,  
Eochaidh Moighmeadhain. This  
Eochaidh had five Sons, viz.  
Bryen, Fiacha, Oilioil, Fear-  
gus, who were the four Sons of  
Mongfine, Daughter of Fiod-  
haig, the fifth Son was Niall  
of the nine Hostages, his Mother  
was Carionn Cadlubh, Daughter  
unto the King of Britain;  
and tho' Niall was the youngest  
Son of the five, yet he was al-  
lowed the first Place in Genea-  
logy, in regard he was the  
most powerful, and that of  
his Posterity there were more  
Monarchs of Ireland than of  
the other two Brothers that had  
Issue; Feargus and Oilioil died  
Issueless, and the two Brothers  
that left Issue, which were Bry-  
en and Fiachra, we will trace  
their respective Genealogies, as  
followeth.



O Connor Roe's GENEALOGY, wherein all the  
Posterity of Bryen, Son  
of Eochaidh Moighmead-  
hain, will be included.

**C**athal Oge,  
Aodha,  
Turlough Roe,  
Teige Boye,  
Cathal Roe,  
Teige,  
Turlough Roe,  
Aodha,  
Feidhlimidh, from whose Brother  
Turlough sprang the noble Fa-  
mily of O Connor Donna.  
Hugh or Aodha,  
Eogan,  
Roger,  
Aodha,  
Cathal Crobdearg,  
Turlough More. This Turlough  
had five Sons which had Issue,  
viz. Cathal Crobdearg, from  
whom sprang the noble Families  
O Connor Roe, and O Con-  
nor Donn; from Bryen Laigh-  
neach, the second Son, sprang the  
noble Family O Connor Siigoe;   
from Aodha Dall, the third

Son, descended O Gealbhuidh  
Maghnus from whom descend-  
ed Mac Maghnus of Turin-  
thail, and O Connor na Mib-  
be, from whom sprang Mac  
Cao Aifne.  
Roger na Soighbuidhe,  
Aodha an Gairbhearraig,  
Teige an Eich Gil, from whose  
Son Muirny descended the  
famous Family Mac Donagh of  
Moighluirg, from whom sprang  
Mac Donogh of Corran and  
Tir Oilioila.

Cathal,  
Connor, from whose Brother Teige  
the Family of the Teiges de-  
scended.

Teige,  
Cathal,  
Connor,  
Teige More,  
Muirghiois, from whose Son Ca-  
thal sprang Mac O'rioghtair,  
Tumaltagh,  
Jonarghtagh, from whom sprang  
O Muir.

Muirtheadh Muilleathan, from  
whose Son sprang O Flanagan,  
Maol Breannoin, and O Maol  
Mocheirge; from Feargus Son  
of the said Muirtheadh sprang  
Mac Samhragain.

Ragalach,  
Uadhach,  
Aodha, from whom sprang O  
Flynn.

Eochaidh Tiormcharas,  
Feargus, from whose Son Fe-  
argna sprang the noble Family  
of O Ruork, Kings of Breifne,  
O Reily, Irish, O Ragha-  
laigh, Kings of Cavan, from  
whom descended the Rabhites,  
according to the Annals of Ire-  
land was at Ballimore on his  
Villain three hundred Years ago,  
now extant in Trinity College  
Dublin; as also from the said  
Feargna sprang the noble Fa-  
milies of O Donallan, Cof-  
namha, and Mac Tighearnains;  
from Duach Teangamha, ano-  
ther Son of Feargus, sprang O  
Flaherty King of Jar Conacht.  
Muirtheadh Mail,  
Eogan Sreibh,  
Duach Gallach,

Bryen, from whose Son Oirioisoin  
sprang the noble Family O May-  
ly; from Earca Dearg, another  
Son of Bryen, Mac Branias,  
and O Hanly; from the said  
Bryen sprang Mac Teige, Ma-  
goireachtai, Cruadhlaach, O  
Englith, O Crowley, O Con-  
cheanain, Oth Fionnugain, O  
Hallurain, O Muirghesta, Mac  
Brady, Garry, Irish, O Gair-  
bhia, O Flanagan, O Floin,  
Linc, Fahy, Irish, O Fatgaig,  
O Cnamhin, O Domhlein, O  
Breilsein, and Mac Aodha, &c.  
Eochaidh Moighmeadhain,  
Muirtheadh Tireach,  
Fiachadh Sreabhine,  
Cairbre Liffeachair,  
Cormac Ulfhada,  
Art Aonfhir,  
Conn Cead Chathach,  
Vide O'Neill's Pedigree.

# The GENEALOGY of Mageogbagan.

Connor and Conly, Sons of  
Caibhach.

Cowly,  
Conull,  
Neill,  
Rossa,  
Coaly,  
Connor,  
Laignigh,  
Conly,  
Hugh Boye,  
Diarmuid,  
Donough,  
Mortough,  
Congalach,  
Congalach,  
Mortough,  
Donough,  
Congalach Oge,  
Congalach More,  
Mortough,  
Concalma,  
Concoighrithie,  
Congalach,  
Mortough,  
Maolfeachluinn,  
Cofgrach,  
Anluain,  
Congalach,  
Donough,  
Morough,  
Amalgach,  
Floin,  
Eathach,  
Eochaidh,  
Eochaidh,  
Crimhthan,  
Giolla Colluin,  
Amalgach,  
Roger,  
Inerge,  
Eochagain, from whom Mageo-  
ghagan took the Name.  
Cofgrach,  
Amalgach,  
Tuthal,  
Fiachadh,  
Niall of the nine Hinges, Monarch  
of Ireland.  
Vide O'Neill's Pedigree.

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O Sheagnafy's PEDIGREE  
of the Posterity of Fiacha,  
Son of Eochaidh Muigh-  
meodhoim

**D**larmuid,  
Roger,  
Dlarmuid,  
Giolla Dubh,  
Diarmuid,  
William,  
John,  
Owen,  
Giolla na Naomh,  
Roger,  
Giolla na Naomh,  
Randle,  
Guilbuidhe,  
Sheagnafy, from whom O She-  
agnafy took the Name.  
Donogh,  
Connidhe,  
Fearguli,  
Maolciarain,  
Cais,  
Maoltuile,  
Siobhainnes.

Nochba,  
Eaghno,  
Gabhnan,  
Tobhuigh, Branan,  
Broinleath Dearg,  
Morough,  
Aodh,  
Artgoile, from whose Son Ardgall  
sprang O Dowd, O Heyn, Kil-  
kelly, O Cearaigh, O Cleirigh,  
OFahy, O Braonain of Cincal  
Aodha, Muinter, Chomaltain,  
Keady, Irish, Muinter Chea-  
daig, and the Casfuogs, Irish,  
Muinter Chathmhogha &c.

Gurrie an Oinigh,  
Colman,  
Cobhthaig,  
Gabhneoin,  
Conull,  
Eogan.  
Eochaidh Breac, from whom de-  
scended Muinter Chreacchain,  
Muinter Leanain, Muinter  
Laithikhe, and Muinter Shu-  
naig.

Dathi,  
Fiacha,  
Eochaidh Muighmeodhin,  
Fiachadh Sreabhthine, whose Bro-  
ther Eochaidh Duibhleir was  
Father of the three Colla, who  
were Princes of Connaught and  
Valour. From Colla Uais, the  
eldest, sprang the noble Family  
of Mac Donail, both in Ire-  
land and Scotland, as also Shie-  
hy, in Irish, Clan Títhgh,  
Dowel, Irish, Clan Dubhail,  
Kerin, Irish, Clann Cheirín,  
Flynn, Irish, O Floinn, Tuir-  
tre, as before mentioned, as also  
O Breasail Macha, &c.

Cairbre Liffachair,  
Cormac Ulfhada,  
Arr Aonhir,  
Conn Cead Chathach,  
Vide O'Neill's Pedigree.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Mac Donail, Earl of An-  
trim's GENEALOGY.

**R**andle,  
Samhairle,  
Aludrum,  
Eoin Cathanach,  
Donall Ballach,  
Eoin More,  
Eoin,  
Aongus Oge,  
Aongus,  
Donail, from whom Mac Donail  
took the Name; from Alu-  
drum, another Son of this Do-  
nail, the Shiechys descended.

Randle,  
Samhairle,  
Giolla Bride,  
Giolla Adamhuin,  
Solamh, from whom sprang the  
Sollays, in Irish, Mac Solamh,  
&c.

Meachruidhe,  
Suibhne,  
Niallgus,  
Mairne,  
Goffra,  
Feargus,  
Eric,  
Crimhthan,  
Eochaidh,  
Colla Uais,

Eochaidh Duibhleir,  
Cairbre Liffachair,  
Cormac Ulfhada,  
Arr Aonhir,  
Conn Cead Chathach,  
Vide O'Neill's Pedigree.  
From Colla da Chaoich, second  
brother, descended the noble Fa-  
milies Mac Mahon of Ulster,  
Kings of Oirgiall; Maguire,  
Kings of Fermanagh; O Kel-  
ly, Kings of Maine, &c.  
Likewise from this Race sprang O  
Madin, Irish, O Madagain,  
Fagan, Irish, Mac Eagain, O  
Nallan, O Hiniuan, and  
the Nortons, Irish, O Neach-  
tain, &c.

\*\*\*\*\*  
The GENEALOGY of  
Maguire of the Posterity  
of Colla da Chrioch.

**C**onconacht More, who was  
slain at Aghruim in King  
James the Second's Bithalf &c.  
Aodha,  
Eryen,  
Conconacht,  
Conconacht,  
Conconacht,  
Bryen,  
Philip,  
Thomas More,  
Aodha Roe,  
Flatberty,  
Donn,  
Donall,  
Christians,  
Donn More,  
Randle,

Guire, from whom Maguire took  
the Name.

Cairdhigh,  
Oirdeiligh,  
Guir,  
Cairnaigh,  
Luzin,  
Vairgioladh,  
Crimhthan,  
Feidhtigh,  
Roichidh,  
Colla da Chrioch,  
Eochaidh Dubhleir,  
Fiachadh Sreabhthine,  
Cairbre Liffachair,  
Cormac Ulfhada,  
Arr Aonhir,  
Conn Ceadchathach,  
Vide O'Neill's Pedigree.

\*\*\*\*\*  
The GENEALOGY of O  
Kelly.

**M**aolachluin,  
Feadorcha,  
Cealla,  
Donall,  
Aodh,  
William,  
Maolachluinn,  
William Boye,  
Donogh Muimhntach,  
Connor,  
Donall,  
Teige Tailteann,  
Connor,  
Diarmuid,  
Connor,  
Teige Charha Bryen,  
Morough,

Aodha,



Son of  
Aodha,  
Ceallaigh, from whom O Kelly  
took the Name,  
Fianachta,  
Oiliolla,  
Jonrachtach, from whose Brother  
Colgrach sprang Clia Aodha-  
ghaim,  
Fothchiolla,  
Duthaig,  
Diocholla,  
Eogan Fionn, from whose Brother  
Buadhach sprang O Ma-  
dagain,  
Cormac,  
Cairbre Crom,  
Fearadhach,  
Luighaidh,  
Dallain,  
Breasal,  
Maine Mor,  
Eochaidh Firdaghail,  
Doonall,  
Jonchaidh. This Jonchaidh  
had three Brothers, viz. Deag-  
hach Durn, from whom sprang  
Mac Mahon of Ulster; Ro-  
chadh, the second Brother, from  
whom sprang Maguire, Mac  
Tighernan of Clann Farrill;  
Fiachradh, the third Brother,  
from whom sprang O Haslu-  
ain and O Niallain.  
Conn Cead Cathach. This  
Conn had two Brothers; from  
Eochaidh Fionn, one of them,  
defended O Nuallain in Lein-  
ster; from Fiachadh Suidhe,  
the other Brother, sprang O  
Whalans, in Irish O Faoinn,  
and O Bruic in Munster.  
Feidhlim Reachtmar,  
Tuathal Teachtmair,  
Fiachadh Fionola,  
Fearadhach Fionna,  
Cromthann Niadhair,  
Lughaidh Riabhdearg,  
Mac na Dtri Fincamha,  
Eochaidh Feidhloich,  
Finn Fionlogha,  
Roighnein Ruadh,  
Easamhuin Eamhna,  
Blathachta,  
Labhra Luirc,  
Eana Aighnach, from whose Brother  
Fiachadh Fearmar sprang  
Caisre Mac Modha Lam-  
hach (Brother in Law to Conn  
Cead Cathach) and he was  
Father to the three Cairbre;  
viz. Cairbre Riada, Cairbre  
Muisk, and Cairbre Bas-  
cain; they and their Po-  
sterity were called Earnude  
Mumhan; from Cairbre Riada  
is Dailriada in Scotland called;  
from Cairbre Muisk is Muske-  
ry in Munster called, of whose  
Posterity is O Faibhe, in English  
O Faivvy in Desmond, an an-  
cient and noble Family, &c. from  
Cairbre Bascain Corca Baif-  
gin is called, and we find none  
of his Issue. From the said  
Cairbre Riada sprang these  
Names in Scotland, viz. Cl-  
neal Guaire, Magh Agnam-  
huin, Magh Eogain, Magh  
Boithroich, Magh Giolla Eoin,  
and Magh Giolla Logh-  
hain, &c.  
Aongus Tuirmheach Tea m-  
rach,

Eochaidh Foidleathan,  
Oiliolla Caisiadhach,  
Conla Cruadh Chealgach,  
Jaron Gleofathach,  
Meigle Molbhach,  
Cobhthaig Caoibreach,  
Ugaine More,  
Vide O'Neill's Pedigree.

The following Noble  
BRANCH of the fore-  
going Princely Family of  
O Kelly,

D Onal O Kelly, or Dennis  
Kelly of Aghraan in the  
County of Galway in the King-  
dom of Ireland Esq. is the only  
Son of Charles Kelly, comman-  
dy called Colonel Charles Kelly,  
who was bred in his Youth at  
St. Omers, where he went thro'  
the Course of his Studies with  
great Reputation, and became  
well versed in the Knowledge of  
most of the European Lan-  
guages, such as Greek, Latin,  
Italian, Spanish, French, Eng-  
lish, and Irish. In the Year  
1642, he returned to Ireland,  
and having soon the Command  
of a Troop of Horse under the  
Marquiss of Ormond, distin-  
guished himself in the Royal  
Cause upon many Occasions dur-  
ing the War: But when the  
King was beheaded, and Ire-  
land had been reduced by the  
Usher, he left the Kingdom,  
and carried a Regiment of Foot,  
consisting of 2000 Men, into  
Spain, and his Royal Master  
King Charles II. being then  
in France, he soon repaired to  
him, and being followed by most  
of his Officers and Soldiers, they  
were formed into a Regiment, and  
placed again under his Command.  
Colonel Charles Kelly continued  
in France till Cardinal Maza-  
rine made that infamous Peace  
with Cromwell, by which the  
King and Royal Family were  
obliged to quit that Kingdom,  
and retire into Spain, the only  
Power at Variance with the U-  
surper; then, like a great many  
other gallant and loyal Gentle-  
men, he quitted that Service, and  
followed his Royal Master into  
Spain; where he remained till it  
pleased God to bring about the  
happy Restoration. In the Year  
1660 he came into England,  
and was always highly esteemed for  
his Learning, Loyalty, and great  
Services both at home and abroad.  
In the Reign of King James II.  
he was chosen Knight of the Shore  
for the County of Roscommon in  
Ireland, and one of his Majesty's  
most honourable privy Council in  
that Kingdom. He was a Person  
of great Abilities, Piety, and  
universal Knowledge, and was  
justly esteemed one of the wisest  
as well as most accomplished  
Men of the Age.

John O Kelly, commonly called  
Colonel John Kelly also Fa-  
ther of Charles, and Grandfa-

ther to the present Dennis, was  
likewise very active and valiant  
in supporting King Charles, the  
First's Cause, during the whole  
Course of the War of Ireland,  
and had such a distinguished  
Character for his Services from  
these two eminent Royalties (the  
Marquiss of Ormond and  
Clanrickard) that he was re-  
stored by a particular Clause in  
the Act of Settlement to all the  
Estate which he either had in  
Possession or Reversion in the  
Year 1641, which Estate was  
accordingly enjoyed by him, and  
still remains in his Family. He  
said John O Kelly was Son and  
Heir to Colla O Kelly, who  
in the Reign of Queen Eliza-  
beth was Commander of the  
Foot under the Great Richard,  
Earl of Clanrickard (and then  
of St. Albans in England) at the  
Battle of Kingsale against the  
Spaniards; in which the said  
Colla O Kelly behaved himself  
with the greatest Conduct and  
Resolution. This Family is chief  
of the Name, and one of the most  
ancient in the Kingdom, and were  
ally'd to most of the best Fam-  
ilies in it; for Colla O Kelly  
was married into the Family of  
the Betaghs, an ancient good  
one of the Danish Extraction;  
his Son John was married to  
the Daughter of Sir William  
Hill of Ulenstown, in the  
County of Meath, by his first  
Wife, Daughter to Elanck of  
Gypstown of the Earl of Fing-  
alls Family; Charles was mar-  
ried to O Kelly of Galway's  
Daughter by Ayles, Daugh-  
ter to O Slaghneuffy, another  
ancient good Family in that  
Country; and the present Den-  
nis is married to the honourable  
Mary Kelly, alias Bellow, eld-  
est Daughter of Walter, late  
Lord Bellow, by the Right ho-  
nourable Frances Arrabella Bel-  
low, alias Wentworth, eldest  
Daughter of the Right Honour-  
able Sir William Wentworth,  
and Sister to the present Earl of  
Strafford, by whom he has Issue  
living two Daughters, viz.  
Frances Arrabella the eldest,  
and Ann the youngest.

THE PEDIGREE of the  
Dailriada in Scotland.

Constantin,  
Coilein,  
Duub,  
Maolcoluim,  
Coulstantin,  
Kennedy,  
Ailpin,  
Eachach,  
Aodha Fionn  
Damangairt,  
Feargus,  
Nisicamair,  
Eirc,  
Eochaidh Munramhar,  
Aongus Firt,  
Feidhlimidh Aislingheach,  
Aongus Buidhmech,

Feidhlim



Feidhlim Roine,  
Ceann Cormac  
Sruthuaithe,  
Fidhfeige,  
Eaguir Chirr,  
Eochaith Andoith,  
Fiachadh Cathmhaoil,  
Foirdheid,  
Eirc,  
Eochaith Riada,  
Fiacha Fearmara,  
Aongus Tuirmheach Teamh-  
rach,  
Eochaith Foileathan,  
Vide O'Neill's Pedigree.

OF the noble Families of Leinster descended from Logaire Lorc, Son of Ugain More, of the Posterity of Heremon: We will begin with the Cavanaghs, tho' not the eldest of Cathaoir More's Posterity, but because there were more Kings in Leinster of their direct Line than any of the rest.

#### Mac Morough's PEDIGREE.

**M**orough, Donall Spaineach,  
Donogh,  
Charles Carrach,  
Mortough,  
Art Boye,  
Donall Riabhach,  
Gearald,  
Art Oge,  
Art More,  
Mortough, from whose Brother Arthur sprang Sliocht Diarmuda Lambdheirg, viz. Morough Mac Bryen with his Descendants.  
Maurice,  
Morrough,  
Donall Caomhanach. From this Donall the noble Family of the Cavanaghs descended; the said Donall had two Brothers, viz. Eamon, and Art; this Art was put to Death by Rodoric O Connor, and left no Issue; from Eamon descended the Cinfealachs famous for several worthy Merits, &c.  
Diarmuid na ngall, from whose Brother Morough na Ngaidh-hil sprang Mac Daibith More.  
Donogh,  
Morough Maol na mbo  
Diarmuid,  
Donall,  
Ceallach,  
Cionaich,  
Cairbre,  
Diarmuid,  
Aodha,  
Ruagallach,  
Oncon,  
Faolchon,  
Faolain,  
Siolain.

Eogan Caoch,  
Nathi, from whom the O Ryans descended, a Sept most free and hospitable.  
Crimhthan,  
Eana Cinfealach, from whose Son Feidhlim sprang the noble Families of the O Murphys, and O Dowling; and from the said Eana's Brother sprang the noble Families of the Byrns and Tools, in Irish O Broin and O Teathail.  
Breasal Bealach,  
Fiachadh Baiceada, who was the youngest of all Cathaoir More's Sons, from whom sprang O Duffy.  
Cathaoir More, from whose eldest Son, viz. Rossa Faighe, sprang the noble Family of O Connor Falie, and from O Connor Falie sprang the famous Families of O Duin, in English, Dun, and O Dempsey, Lords of Cianmalier, of the same Race or Line sprang O Brainin, O Riagain in Leinster, Mac Colgain, Clan Carbery, O Maolchiarain, O Bearra of Lecach, O Hartdagh, and one of the Families of O Floinn, &c. From Daire Barach, another Son of Cathaoir More, sprang O Gormain, O Moony, Irish O Maonaigh, Mullin, Irish, O Maolan, from Cuchorh, another Son of Cathaoir More, sprang O Feadhail of Forthuach.  
Feidhlim Fíorurgas,  
Cormac Gealtagoth,  
Niachorb,  
Conchorb, from whose Son Cairbre Cluthachair, sprang the honourable Family of O Dwir, Kings of Cairbre, Coillnamanach, &c. and from him also sprang O Donagain Araighe.  
Connor Abhraruadh,  
Fíníleach,  
Rossa Roe,  
Nuadha Neacht: This Nuadha had three Sons, viz. Feargus Faighe, the Ancestor; Baoigne from whom sprang Cumhall, the Father of Fionn, the General of all the train'd Bands of Ireland, called Fiana Éirion. Baine, the King of England's Daughter, was Mother unto Cumhall, and to Feidhlim Reachtmar,  
Seadhna Siobhbach,  
Luighdheach Loithfin,  
Breasal Breac. From this Breasal's Son Conla sprang the noble Family of the Fitz Patricks, in Irish Mac Giolla Phadrúig, Kings of Offery.  
Fiacha Fobhrich,  
Oiliolla Glas,  
Fiacha Foghlás,  
Nuagatt Follamhuin,  
Alloit,  
Art,  
Modha Airt,  
Crimhthan Cosgrach,  
Feidhlim Fortriun,  
Feargus Fortamhail,  
Breasal Breogamhuin,  
Aongus Follamhuin.

Oiliolla Brachain,  
Labhra Loingfeach,  
Oiliolla Aine,  
Laogaire Luirc,  
Ugain More,  
Vide O'Neill's Pedigree.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
THE PEDIGREE of Maurice O Connor Falie Esq. being originally descended from Rossa Faighe the eldest Son of Cathaoir More Monarch of Ireland.  
Donogh and Maurice O Connor Esq., the Sons of Coll,  
John O Connor,  
Donogh,  
John,  
Donogh,  
John,  
Diarmuid,  
Charles, from whose Brother Turrough sprang the noble Family of Teige an Troithin, &c.  
Conn,  
Calbhach,  
Morough,  
Mortough,  
Mortough,  
Mortough,  
Maolmordha,  
Mortough,  
Donogh,  
Conaifne,  
Mortough,  
Congalach,  
Dunleibbe,  
Brogarbhan,  
Connor,  
Congalach,  
Finn,  
Maolmordha,  
Connor,  
Flanagan,  
Cionthaoich,  
Mugruim,  
Fíoin da Chongal,  
Diomusach,  
Congalach,  
Foranan,  
Maolmhaigh,  
Cathal,  
Buidhe,  
Eogan,  
Nathi,  
Rossa Faighe,  
Cathaoir More, Monarch of Ireland,  
Feidhlim Fíorurgas,  
Cormac Gealtagoth,  
Niadh Chorb,  
Conchorb,  
Modha Chuirb,  
Connor Abhraruadh,  
Finníle,  
Rossa Roe,  
Nuadha Neacht  
Seadhna Siobhbaic,  
Luighdheach Loithfin,  
Breasal Breac,  
Fiachadh Fobhrich,  
Oiliolla Glas,  
Fiachadh Foghlás,  
Nuadhatt Follamhuin,  
Alloit,  
Art,  
Modha Airt,  
Crimhthan Cosgrach,  
Feidhlim Fíortriun,  
Feargus

Fergus Fortamhail,  
Breafal Breogamhuin,  
Aongus Follamhuin,  
Oiliolla Brachain,  
Labhra Loingfeach,  
Oiliolla Aine,  
Laogaire Luirc,  
Ugaine More *Monarch of Ireland,  
and ancestor to all the royal  
Race of Heremon.*



The PEDIGREE of the  
*Fitz Patrick, Kings of  
Offery.*

**B** Ryen,  
Teige,  
Florence,  
Bryen,  
Bryen,  
John,  
Florence na cul Choille,  
Florence,  
Donall Dubh,  
Florence Bacach,  
Donall More,  
Moighe Laighis,  
Donall Clanach,  
Sganlan,  
Giolla Padruig *from whom Mac  
Gioll Phadruig took the Name  
Fitz Patrick.*

Son of

Donough,  
Ceallach,  
Carroll, *from whose Son Bryen  
sprang the valiant Family of  
O Breannan Jobh Duach, and  
Clan Oisighin.*

Dongaile,  
Anamchaidh,  
Concarn,  
Faolan,  
Croanmael,  
Rosen Rioghfhlaitha,  
Colman More,  
Bigne Caach,  
Laighnig Faoiligh,  
Sganlan More,  
Cinnfolach,  
Roman Duach,  
Conull,  
Cairbre,  
Neadhbuaia,  
Eohaidh Lamhdhiott,  
Aingidhe,  
Laogaire Bearnbuadh, *one of the  
fittest Heroes of his Time.*

Aongus Offery,  
Criomhthan,  
Eirc,  
Eana,  
Oiliolla,  
Luigheach,  
Labhra,  
Carthan,  
Nuadhair,  
Conla, *from whom sprang the fol-  
lowing Sinesnes, according to the  
Poem that begins with these  
Words, Nass na Riogh Riog-  
ha na tuilach, viz. Muinter  
Baoirhin, Muinter Duineamh-  
la, Muinter Ofain, Muinter  
Mairnain, Muinter Toachair,  
Muinter Chritthin, Muinter  
Dhulbhain, Muinter Lionaig,  
Muinter Urgusa, Muinter*

Son of

Chreadmachain, *the Nunan,  
the Muineaghans, a Sept of the  
Brecons, the Cobhraoi, and se-  
veral others, &c.*

Breafal Breac,  
Fiachadh Fobhrig,  
Oiliolla Glas,  
Fiachadh Foglas,  
Nuadhat Follamhuin,  
Alloit,  
Art,  
Modha Airt,  
Criomhthan Cosgrach,  
Feidhlime Fortmua,  
Fergus Fortamhail,  
Breafal Breaghamhuin,  
Aongus Follamhuin,  
Oiliolla Brachain,  
Labhradh Loingfeach,  
Oiliolla Aine,  
Laogaire Loirc,  
Ugaine More,  
Vide O'Neill's Pedigree.



The GENEALOGY of O  
*Dwyre.*

**P** Hilip  
Anthony,  
Diarmuid,  
Thomas,  
Connor,  
Thomas,  
Thomas,  
Connor,  
Thomas,  
Thomas,  
Giolla na Naomh,  
Giolla na Naomh,  
Loghlin,  
Giolla na Naomh,  
Lorcan,  
Ceallaig,  
Giolla na Naomh,  
Ceallaig,  
Lorcan,  
Aodh,  
Donogh,  
Lorcan,  
Dwyre, *from whom O Dwyre  
took the Name,*

Spialain,  
Suibhny,  
Dunchadh,  
Duadhfhlaith,  
Collan,  
Colman,  
Crath,  
Roger,  
Griollan,  
Lubna,  
Lughna,  
Muiriny,  
Fionnachda,  
Firrath,  
Firrudearg,  
Firine,  
Luigheach,  
Airmhair,  
Cairbre Cluitheachair,  
Conchorb,  
Modha Corb,  
Connor Abhraruadh,  
Finnille,  
Rossa Roe,  
Nuadha Neacht,  
Seadhna Siobhaic,  
Luigheach Loithann,  
Breafal Breac,  
Vide Fitz Patrick's Genealogy.



The PEDIGREE of O *Hei-  
dergeoil*, in which we  
will infer all the noble  
Families that sprang from  
*Ith*, Son of *Breogan*,  
which *Ith* was Uncle to  
King *Milefius*.

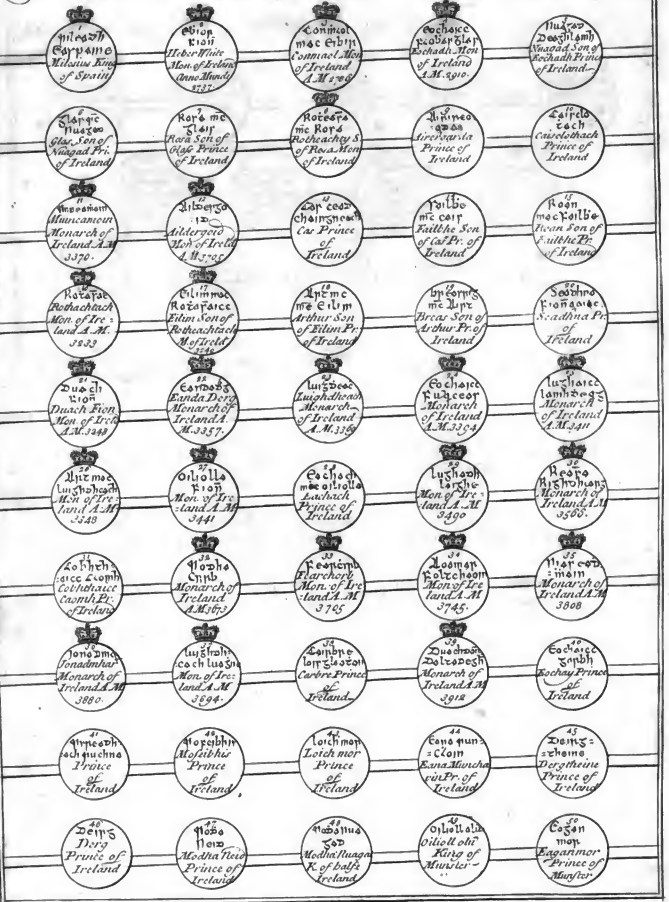
**F** Lorence,  
Connor,  
Connor,  
Florence,  
Mac Con,  
Mac Con,  
Donough,  
Magh Crath,  
Donough More,  
Fothadh,  
Finn,  
Mac Con,  
Fothadh,  
Heidergeoil, *from whom O Hei-  
dergeoil took the Name.*

Finn,  
Nuadhath,  
Dungoile,  
Maolcuile,  
Dungula,  
Aongus,  
Foluchta,  
Flanain,  
Cobhain,  
Cobrain,  
Flannain,  
Brannuith,  
Heidergeoil,  
Nathi,  
Aongus,  
Maccon,  
Macniadh,  
Luidheach,  
Daire Firuillne,  
Eadamhrach,  
Deaghadh Dearg,  
Deirghine,  
Nuadhach Airgtheach,  
Luchtsine,  
Logha Feidhlig,  
Olá,  
Sin,  
Maithfin,  
Logha,  
Eadamhain,  
Mail,  
Luigheach,  
Ith.

Breogan. *This Breogan was King  
of Spain, and was the Grand-  
father of King Milefius. From  
Luigheach, the Son of Ith,  
descended Mac Amluidhe, Cal-  
luidhe, Mac Flanchuidhe, of  
Dartuidhe, O Cobhthaig, O  
Curnin Mac Aillin in Scotland  
as O Haillinan, O Floin Arda;  
O Baire Arran, &c. from Mac  
Aillin sprang O Fathaidh, &c.*

Son of

The Regall Pedegree of *HEBER* the Son of King Milefius



To the R.<sup>te</sup> Hon.<sup>ble</sup> the

This Plate is  
by His Lordships



Earl of Clencarty

humbly dedicated  
most Obedient serv<sup>t</sup>

Der.<sup>d</sup> Connor

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

|      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1776 | 1777 | 1778 | 1779 | 1780 |
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| 1786 | 1787 | 1788 | 1789 | 1790 |
| 1791 | 1792 | 1793 | 1794 | 1795 |
| 1796 | 1797 | 1798 | 1799 | 1800 |
| 1801 | 1802 | 1803 | 1804 | 1805 |
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| 1851 | 1852 | 1853 | 1854 | 1855 |
| 1856 | 1857 | 1858 | 1859 | 1860 |
| 1861 | 1862 | 1863 | 1864 | 1865 |
| 1866 | 1867 | 1868 | 1869 | 1870 |
| 1871 | 1872 | 1873 | 1874 | 1875 |
| 1876 | 1877 | 1878 | 1879 | 1880 |
| 1881 | 1882 | 1883 | 1884 | 1885 |
| 1886 | 1887 | 1888 | 1889 | 1890 |
| 1891 | 1892 | 1893 | 1894 | 1895 |
| 1896 | 1897 | 1898 | 1899 | 1900 |

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1776

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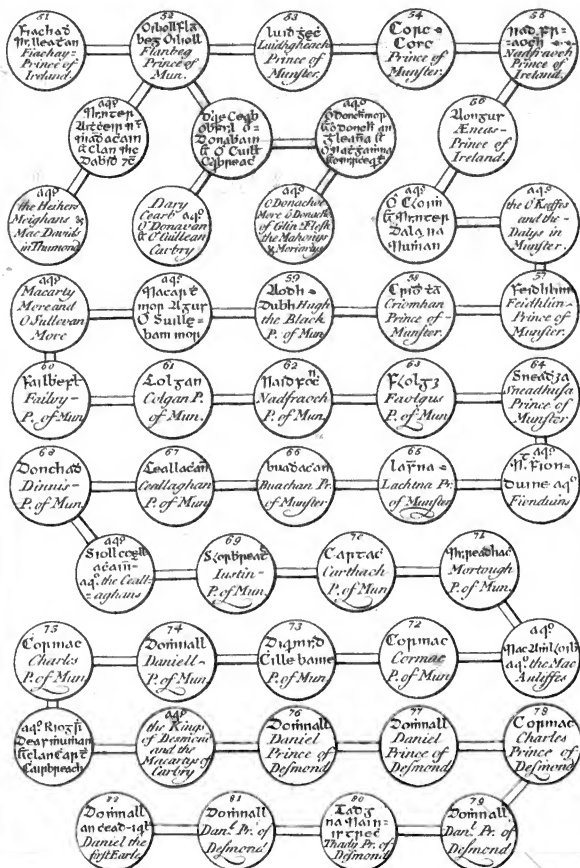
1897

1898

1899

1900

# HEBER the Son of Milesius his Pedigree continued.



To the Right Hon. Gerald Lord  
 Kingsale & Lord  
 Courcy of Rynerone.  
 This Plate is  
 by his most Obedient  
 humble servant  
 Servant. Der. d. Conner.



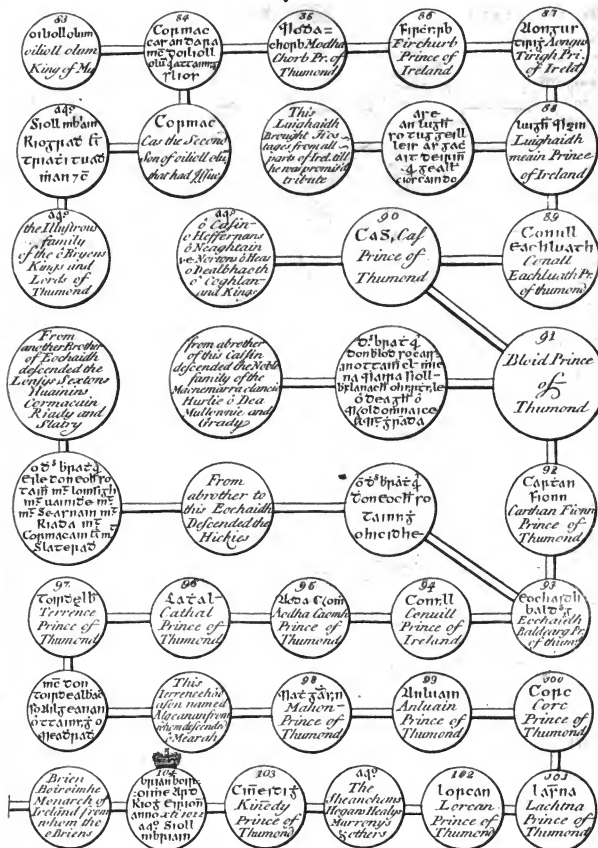


Figure 1. Schematic diagram of the experimental setup.

Figure 2. Schematic diagram of the experimental setup.

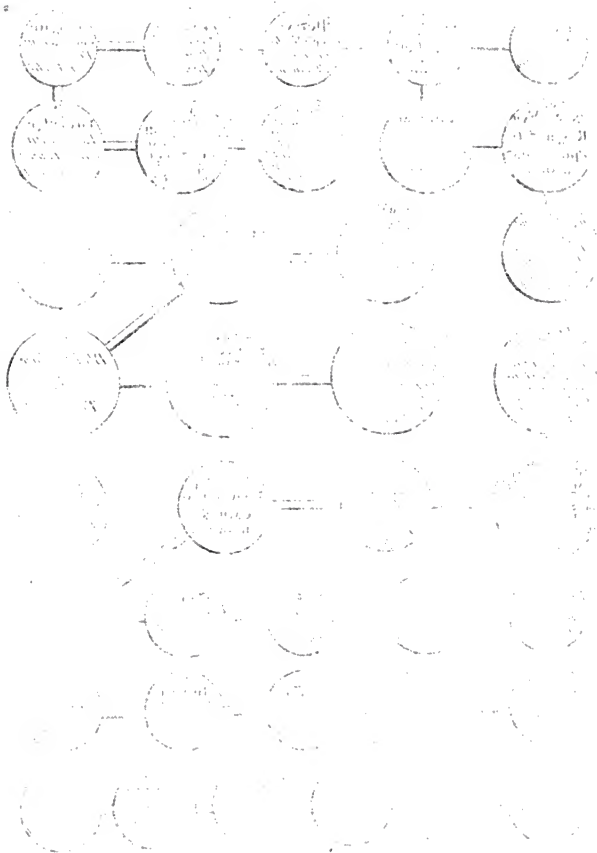


# HEBER the Son of Milesius his Pedigree continued.

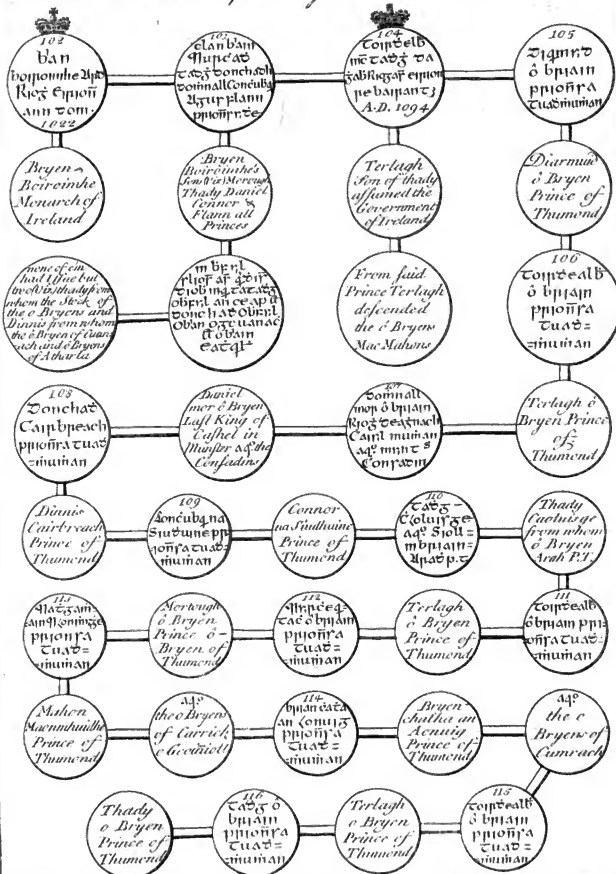


To the Most Noble Prince To<sup>th</sup> Duke & Earl of Mountague.  
 K<sup>t</sup> of the most Noble  
 This Plate is  
 by his Graces most Obedient  
 Order of the Garter.  
 humbly dedicated  
 Servant  
 Der.<sup>d</sup> o' Connor.





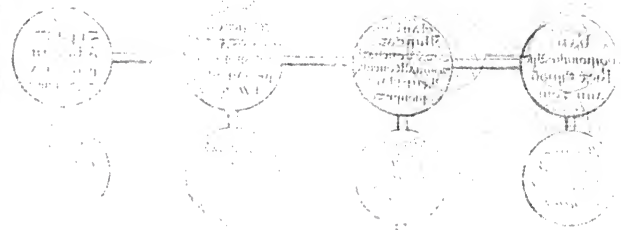
# HEBER the Son of Milesius his Pedigree continued



To the R. Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Earl of Inchuquin  
 This Plate is —  
 by his Lordship's  
 humbly dedicated  
 most Obedient Serv<sup>t</sup>  
 Der<sup>t</sup> ó Connor

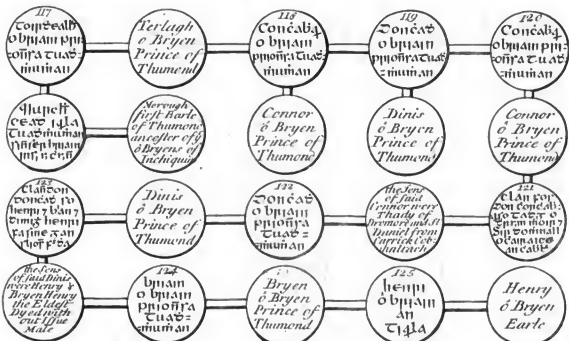


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# *HEBER, the Son of Milefius his Pedigree ended*



*The End of the Royal Line of the most Noble & warlike Family of the óBryens, commonly called the Dailgcaislan Race that flourished with Success & Honour some Hundred Years: from whom descended the Brave & Magnanimous Bryen Boiroimhe Monarch of Ireland, who with his invincible Irish Forces overcame the Norwegians and Danes — in forty nine Battles, but was at last slain at y<sup>e</sup> Head of his Army: His Son the most Valiant Prince Donogh óBryen succeeded in y<sup>e</sup> Command and obtained a complete Victory. The Eugeniens soon after parted him, and before his Soldiers were recover'd of their Wounds he was challenged by a Prince in Leinster, either to Fight, or send him Hostages. Donogh resolved to answer him & to animate his Troops, declared that if but one Man of em would stand by him he would engage y<sup>e</sup> whole Army, This inspired the Souldiery with fresh Courage, who placing their wounded between y<sup>e</sup> Sound Men, with their Rear Supported by Strong Piles, & with Swords drawn, offered Battle to the Prince of Leinster, But he, surpris'd at this uncommon Bravery quitted the Field. This Irish Monarch first distinguished y<sup>e</sup> several Scribes by Proper Names, He restored y<sup>e</sup> Bishops, their See, founded many Churches & Schools, repaired & revived y<sup>e</sup> Decayed Universities, & laid several Causeways thro' out the Island, as is particularly mentioned in y<sup>e</sup> Second part of this History.*

To Matth<sup>us</sup> Heffernan

of London, Gen<sup>l</sup>

This Plate is  
most Humble



dedicated by his  
Servant

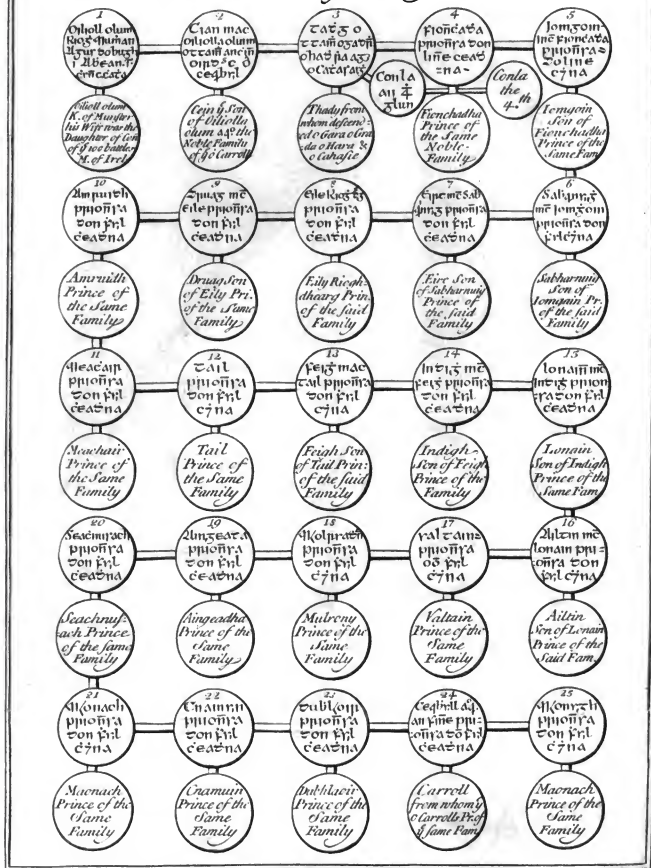
Der.<sup>d</sup> ó Conner.

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540 EAST 57TH STREET  
CHICAGO, ILL. 60637  
U.S.A.  
1977

1977

*The Pedigree of the Princely Family of the ô Carroll's*

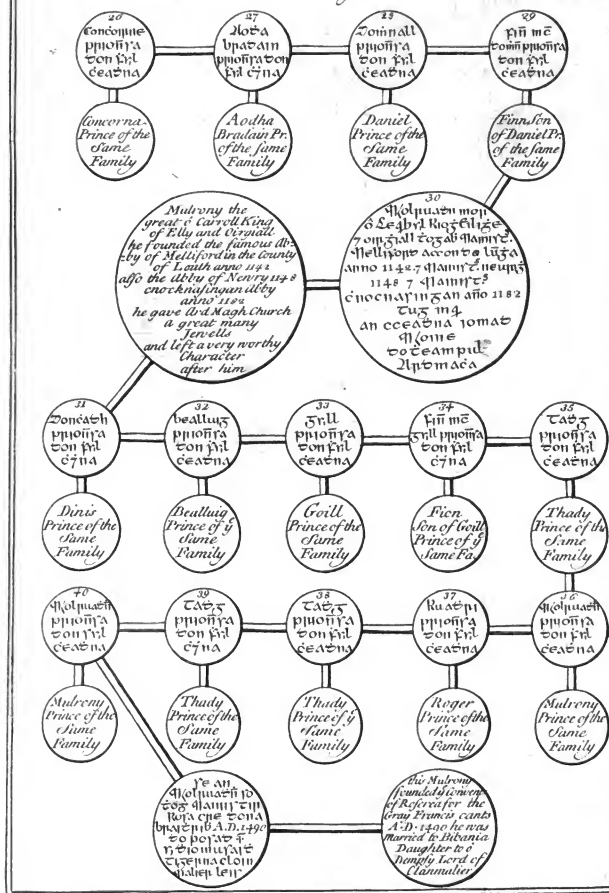


To y<sup>e</sup> Hon.<sup>ble</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Dan<sup>l</sup>  
 This Plate is — humbly dedicated  
 by his most Obedient Servant,  
 Der.<sup>d</sup> o<sup>r</sup> Coun.<sup>r</sup>





# The o Carrolls Pedigree Continued.



To the Hon.<sup>ble</sup>

Major In.<sup>c</sup> Roch

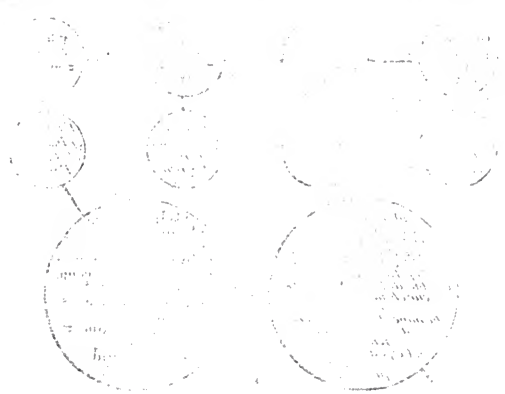
This Plate is—  
by his moſt Obedient

humbly dedicated  
Servant—

Der.<sup>d</sup> o Connor

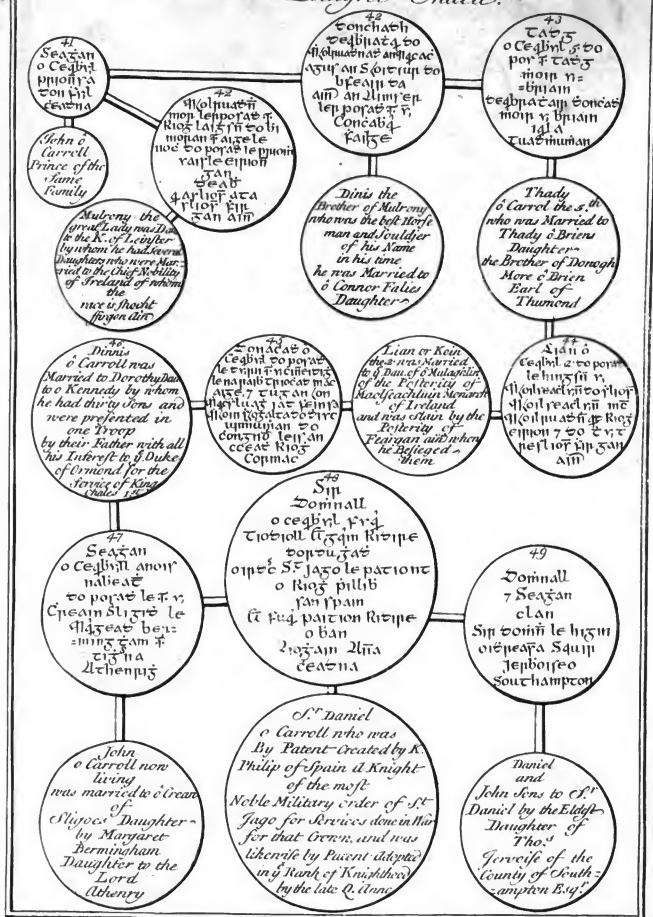






# The O'Carrolls Pedigree Ended.

Plate 1.

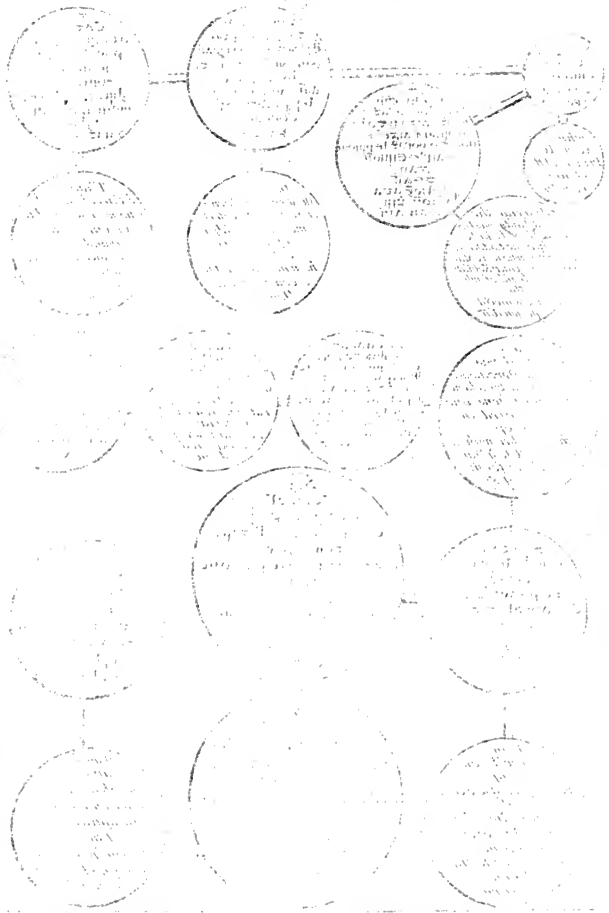


To the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lord Athlery  
Primear Bar. of Ireland

This Plate is  
by his Lordships

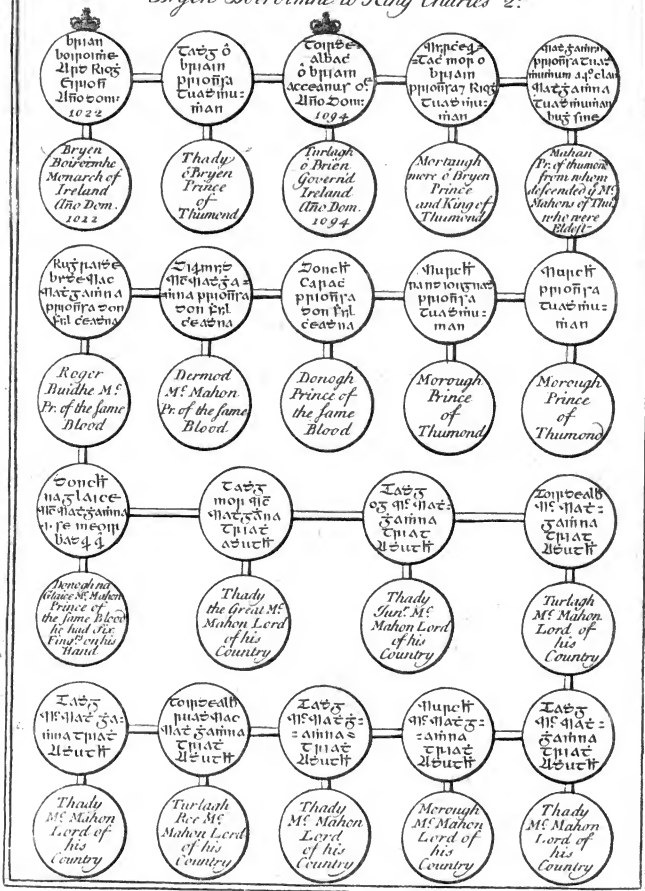


humbly dedicated  
most Obedient Ser<sup>t</sup>  
Der<sup>d</sup> o Connor



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CHICAGO, ILL. U.S.A.

*The Lineal Pedigree of the Princely and Ancient Family of the Mac Mahons of Thumond down from the renowned Monarch Bryen Boirvimhe to King Charles 2.<sup>d</sup>*



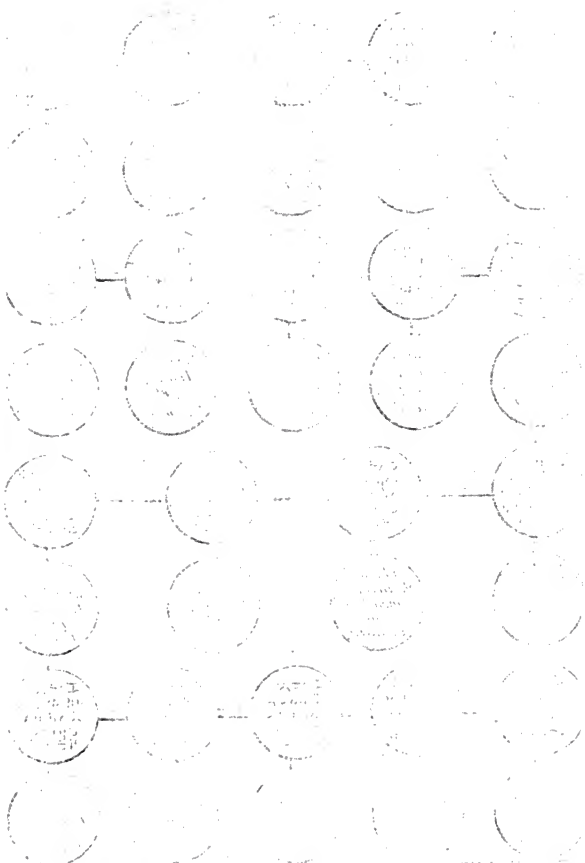
To Bryen Mac  
of Clare in the

This Plate is  
most Obedient



Mahon of y<sup>e</sup> County  
Kingdom of Irit. Esq<sup>r</sup>.

dedicated by his  
Servant—  
Der<sup>d</sup> o Connor

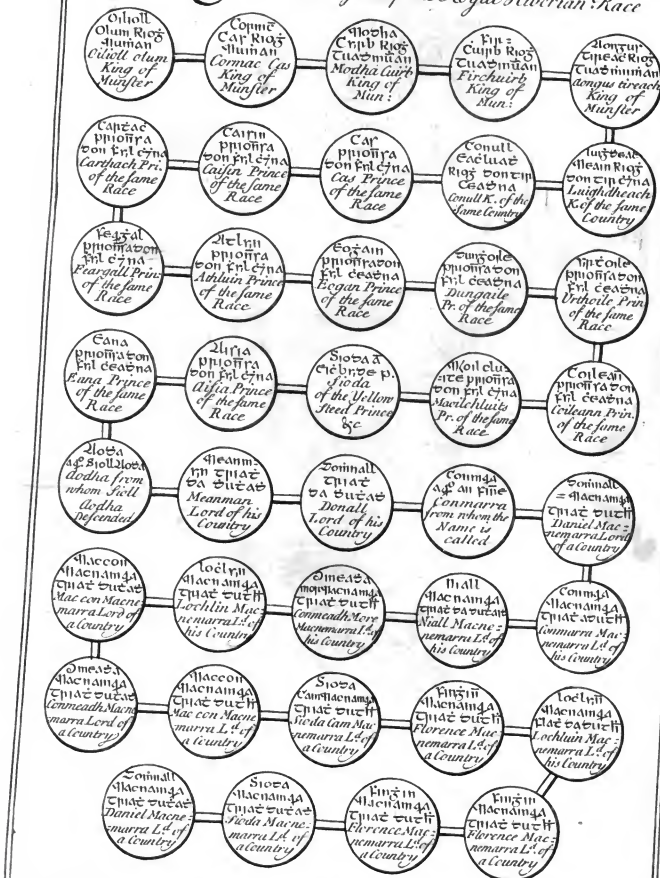


*[Faint, illegible handwritten text at the bottom of the page, possibly a signature or date.]*



*The Lineall Pedigree of the Noble PRINCELY Family of the Macnemarras  
of Rofruadh in Munster of the Royal Hibernian Race*

Plate 10.



To Th.<sup>o</sup> Macnemarra of the Kingdom of Int. Esq.

This Plate is  
by his most Obedient

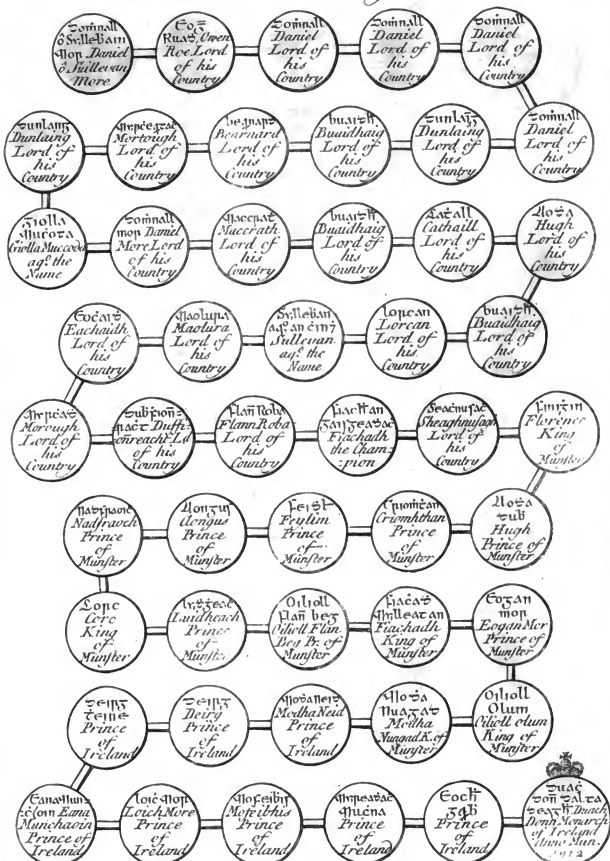


humbly dedicated  
Servant

Der.<sup>o</sup> Connor



*The Pedigree of the Princely Family of o'Sullivan More—  
to Duach Donn Monarch of Ireland.*

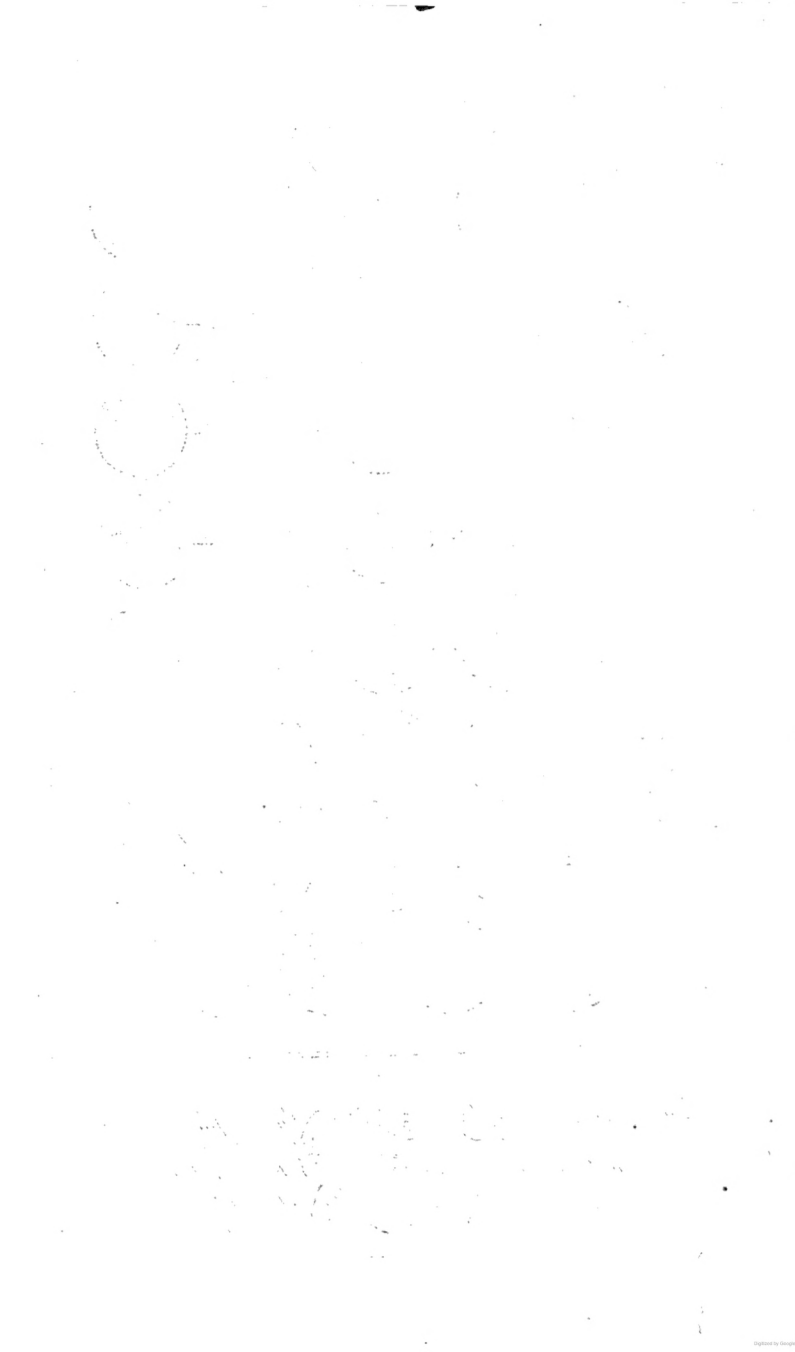


To Martin Boyle of the Kingdom of Ireland Esq

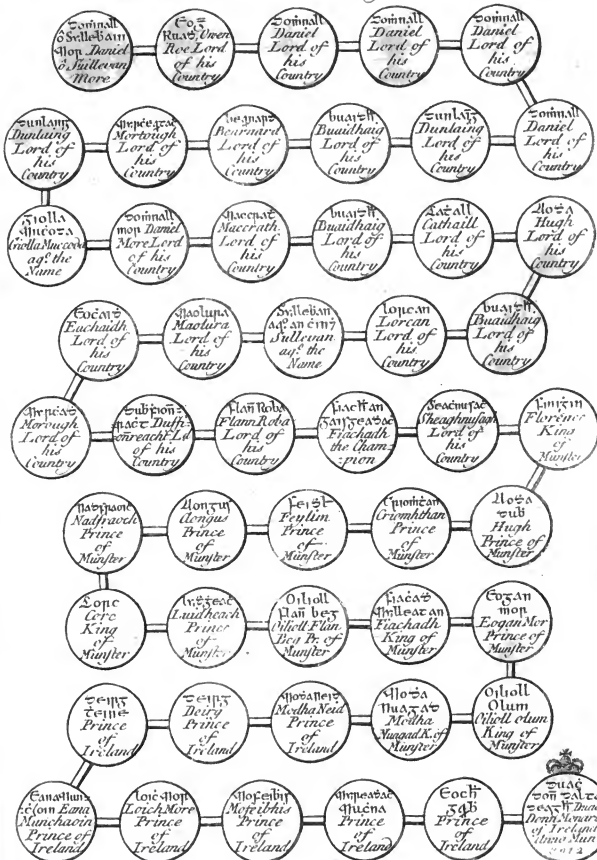
This Plate is—  
by his most Obedient

humbly dedicated  
Servant.  
Der. o'Connor.





*The Pedigree of the Princely Family of o'Sullivan More—  
to Duach Donn Monarch of Ireland.*



*To Martin Despard Esq. Kingdome of Ireland Esq*

*This Plate is —  
by his most Obedient*

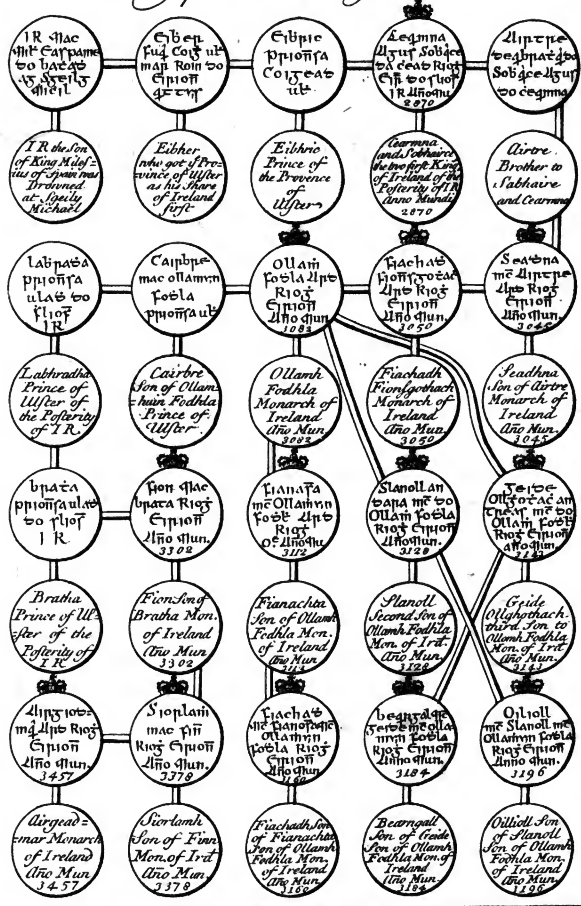


*humbly dedicated  
servant.  
Der'de Connor*





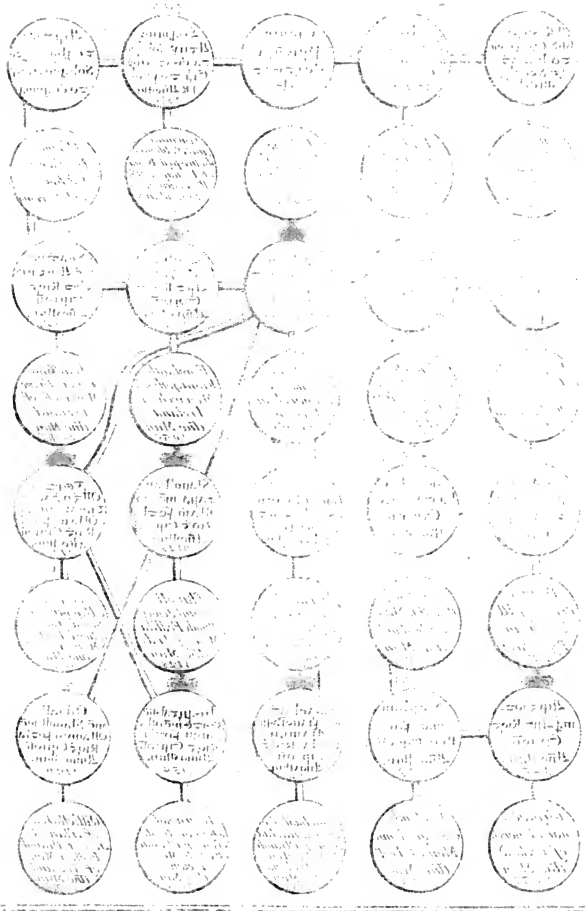
*The Regall Pedigree of o' Connor Kerry of whose Ancesters were  
Twenty five Monarchs of Ireland*



To the R.<sup>t</sup> Hon.<sup>ble</sup>  Earl of Thumond

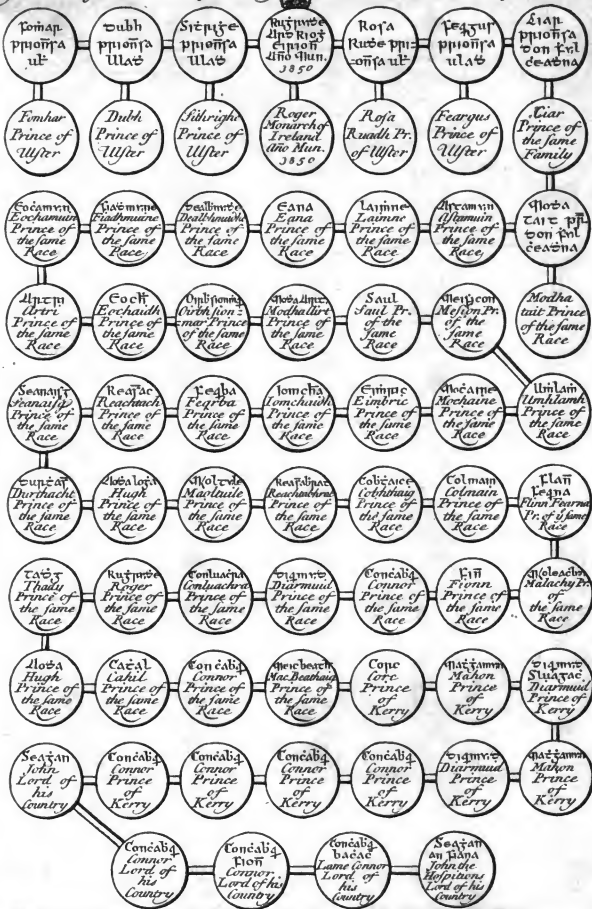
This Plate is ———— humbly dedicated  
by his Lordships most Obedient Servant  
Der.<sup>d</sup> o' Connor

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# The Regall Pedigree of the o' Connor Kerrys ended



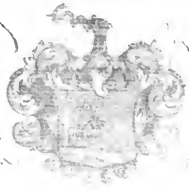
To Daniel o' Callaghan of  
 Cluain Meen Esq.  
 This Plate is humbly dedicated  
 by his most Obedient Servant—



Der. o' Connor

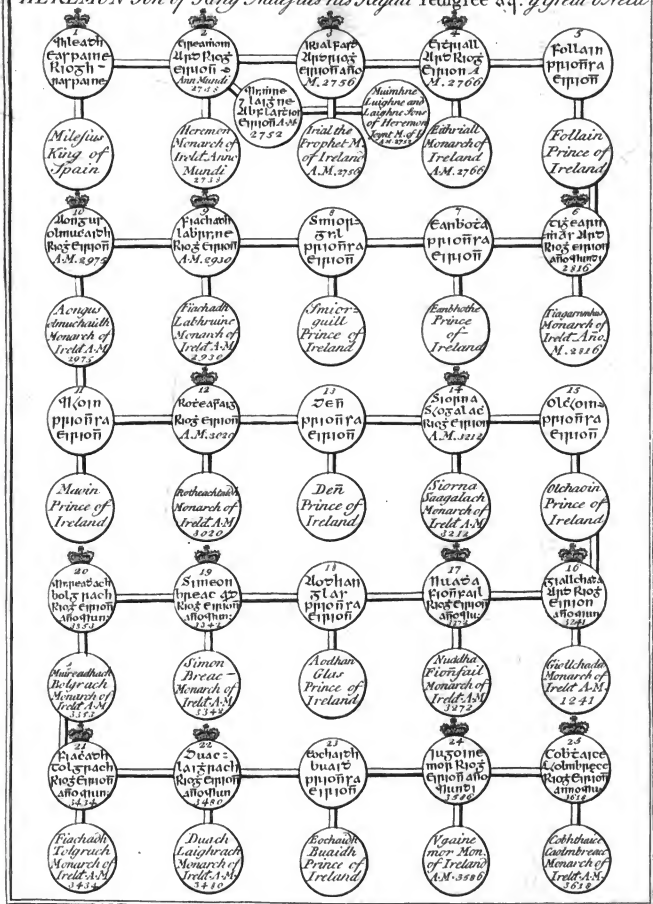
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| 99 | 100 | 101 | 102 | 103 | 104 | 105 |

The above is a list of the names of the  
 persons who have been admitted to the  
 office of the Secretary of the  
 Board of Education since the year 1800.





HEREMON Son of King Milefius his Regall Pedigree A.D. of Great o'Neill



To the Great O'Neill

This Plate is ————

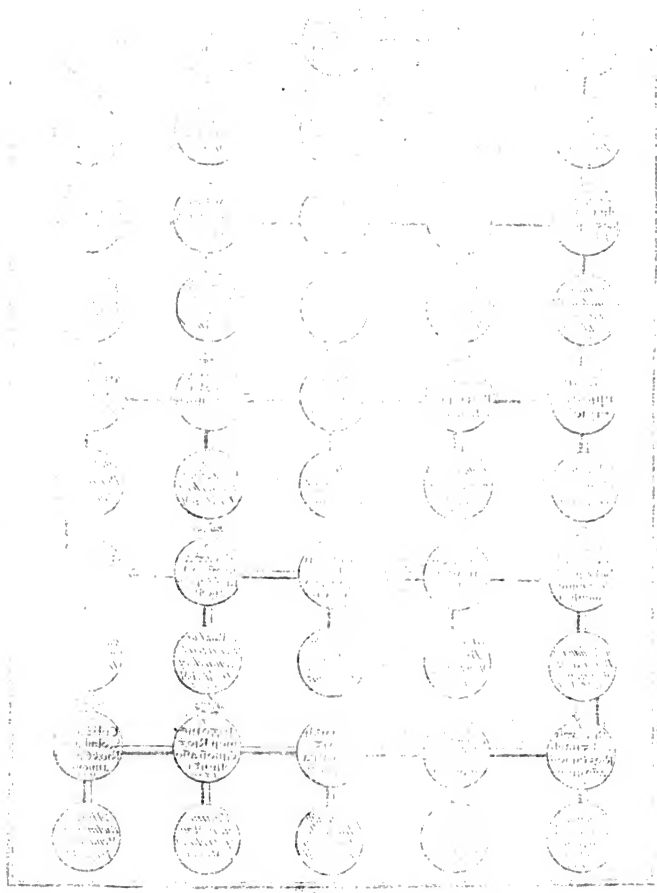
by her Ladyships

humbly dedicated

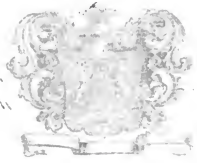
most Obedient Serv.<sup>t</sup>

Der. o Connor



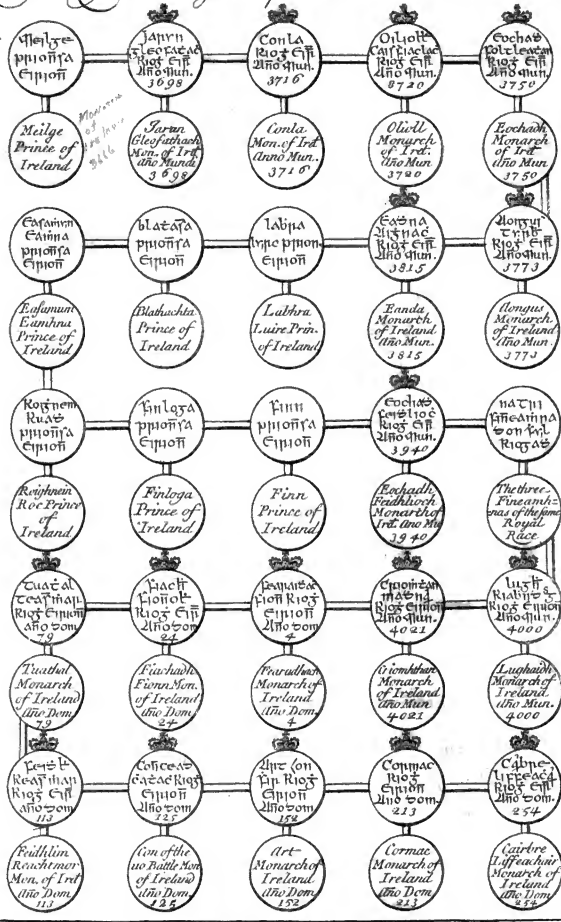


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# The Royal Pedigree of Heremon continued



To the R. Hon. the  
of the Kingdom  
This Plate is  
by his Lordships

Lord Viscount Mayo  
of Ireland  
humbly dedicated  
most Obedient Ser.  
Der. o Conner

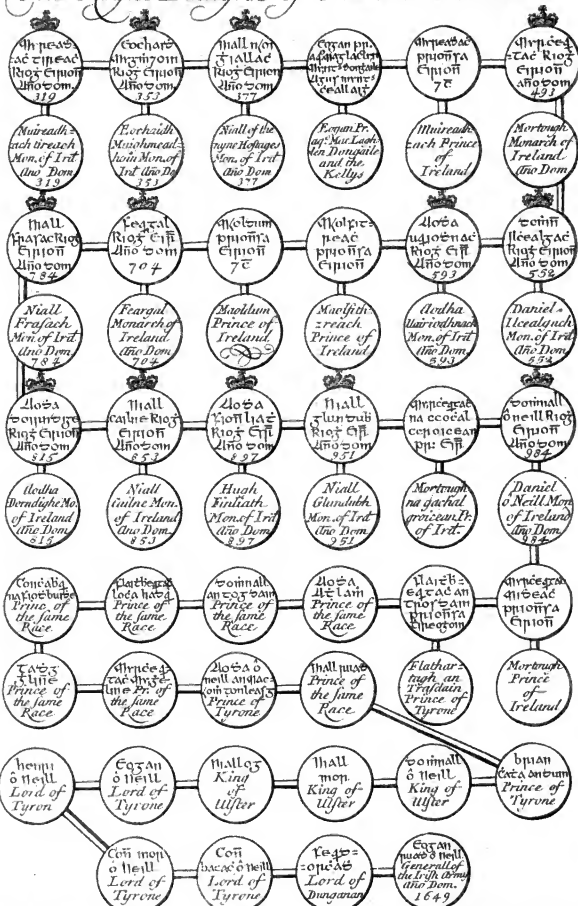


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| 86 | 87 | 88 | 89 | 90  |
| 91 | 92 | 93 | 94 | 95  |
| 96 | 97 | 98 | 99 | 100 |

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# The Royal Pedigree of Heremon ended

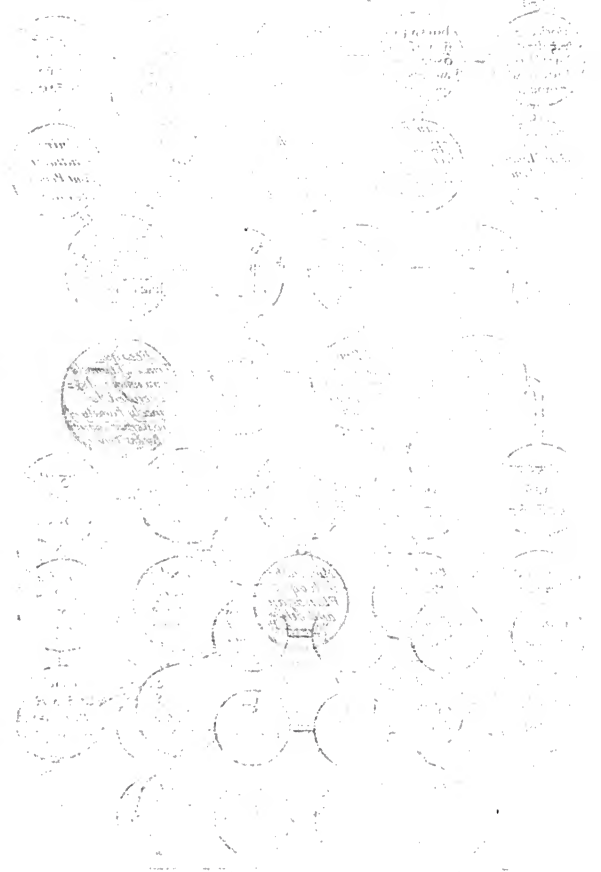


To John Purcell Esq.  
This Plate is  
by his most  
humbly dedicated  
Obedient Servant  
Der. d' Connor



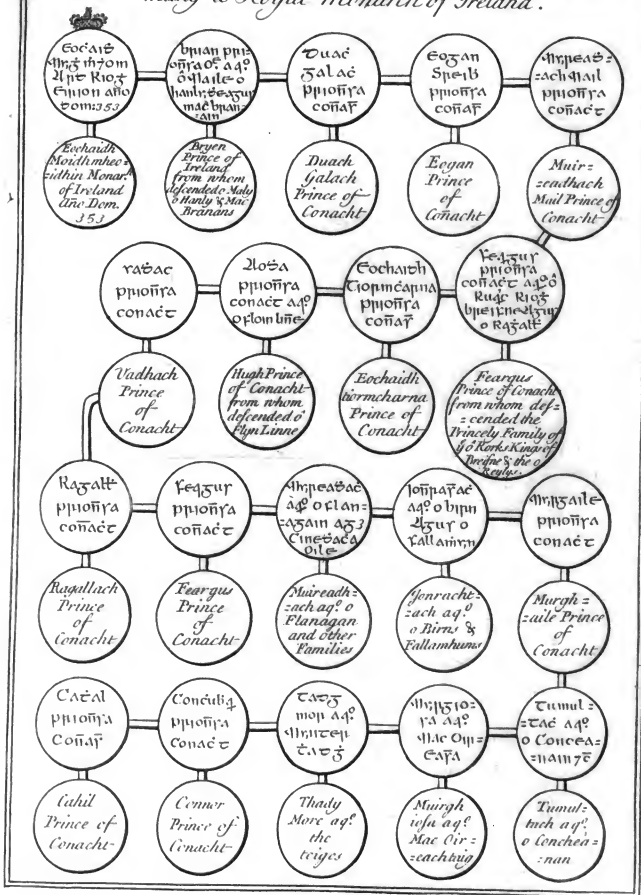


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LIBRARY  
CHICAGO, ILL.

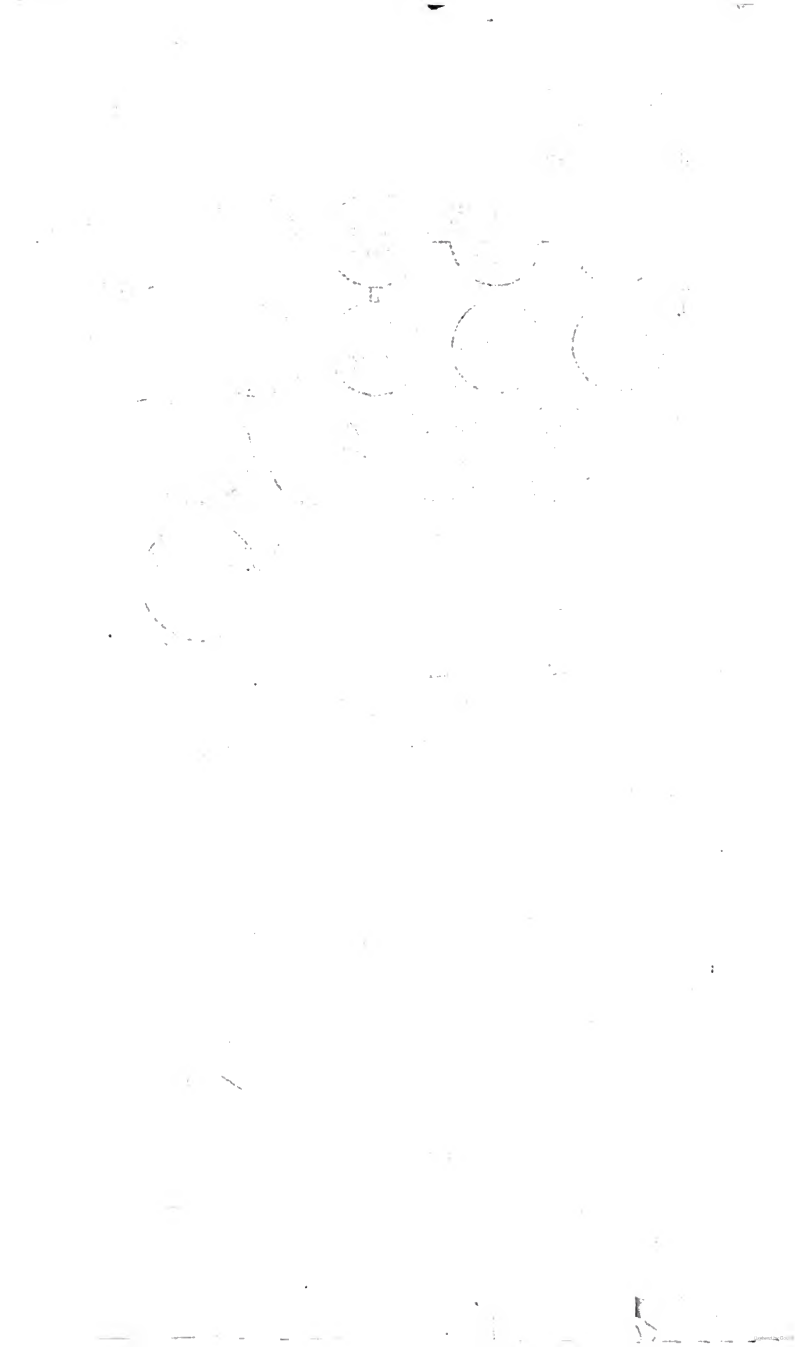


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LIBRARY  
CHICAGO, ILL.

*The o Connor Roes Pedigree from whom y Princely Family  
of the o Rorks Descended of whose Ancesters were  
many a Royal Monarch of Ireland.*

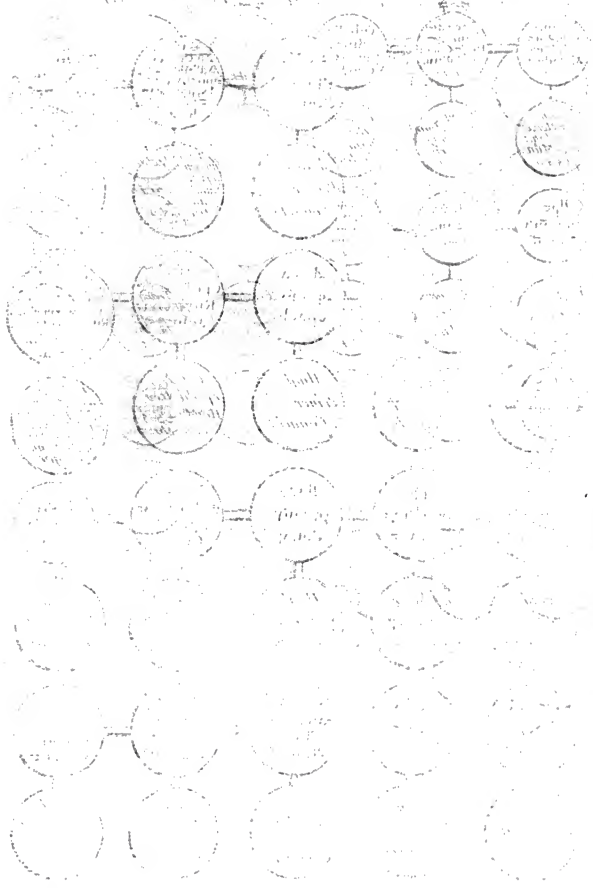


*To the Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Colon.<sup>l</sup> Paget*  
*This Plate is*  *humbly dedicated*  
*by his most Obedient* *Servant*  
*Der.<sup>d</sup> o Connor:*



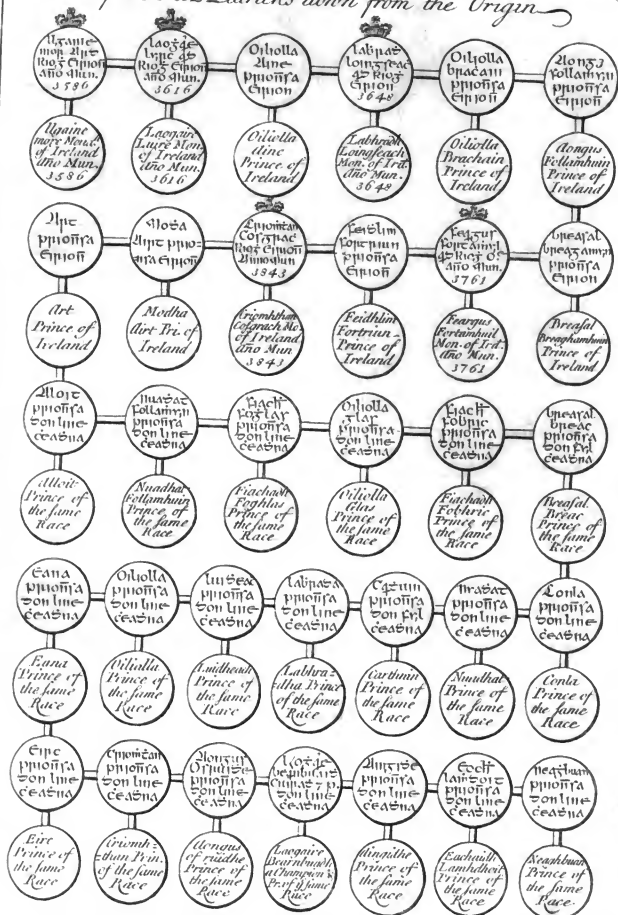


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*The Lineal Genealogie of the Ancient and Princely Family  
of the Fitz-Patricks down from the Origin*

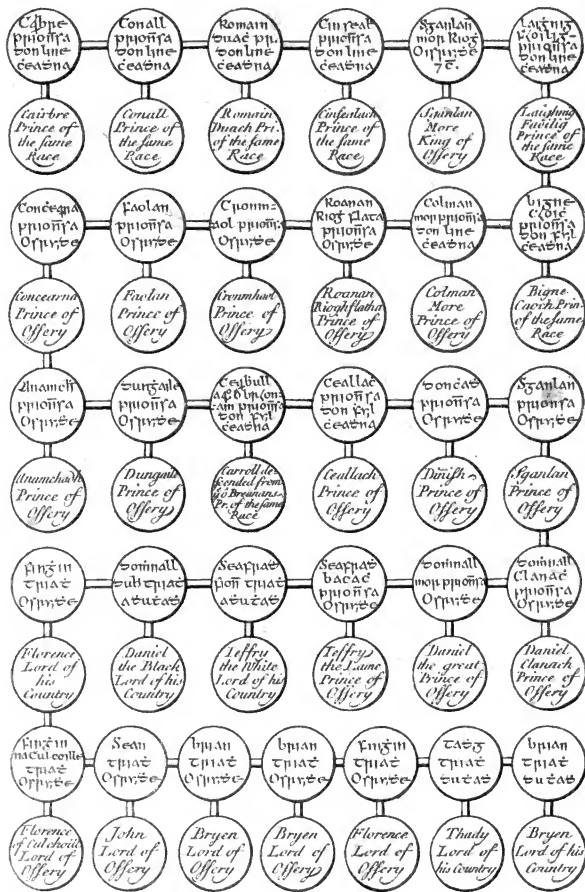


*To the R. Hon.<sup>ble</sup> the Lord Governor*  
*This Plate is*  
*by his Lordships*  
*humbly dedicated*  
*most Obedient Serv.<sup>t</sup>*  
*Per. d. o. Conner.*





*The Lineal Genealogie of the Ancient and Princely Family  
of the Fitz Patricks ended.*

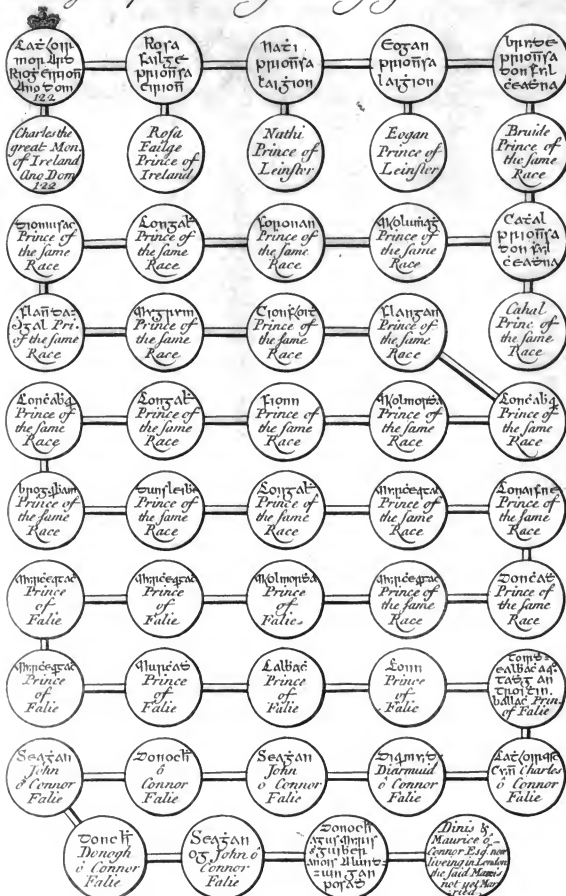


*To the Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Colon! Cosby*  
*This Plate is ———— humbly dedicated*  
*by his most Obedient ———— Servant ————*  
*Der. d<sup>o</sup> Conner*





# The Pedigree of the Princely Family of the o' Connor Falies



To Meills o'  
in y Kingdom

This Plate is  
by his most Obedient

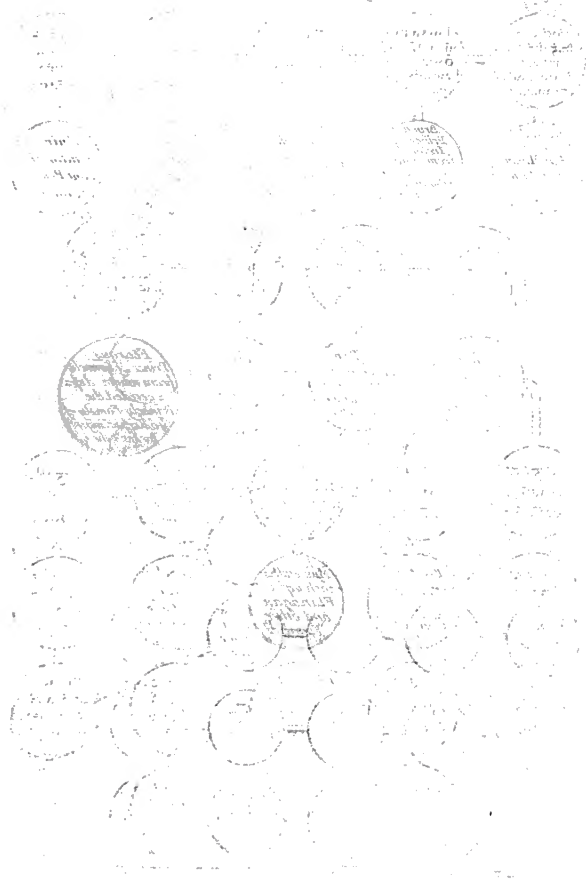


Carroll Esq.<sup>r</sup>  
of Ireland

humbly dedicated  
Servant  
Der. o' Connor

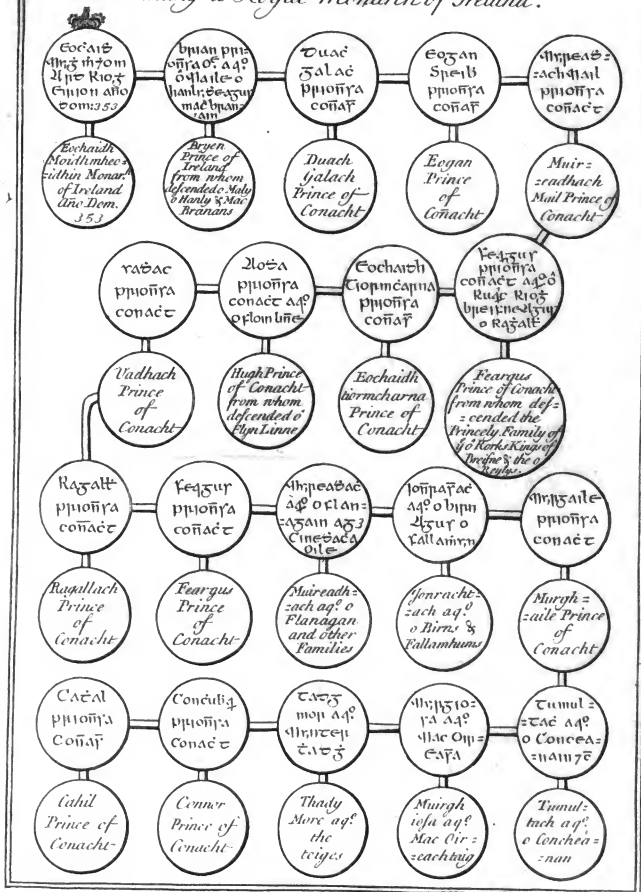


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*The o Connor Roe's Pedigree from whom y Princely Family  
of the o Rorks Descended of whose Ancesters were  
many a Royal Monarch of Ireland.*



*To the Hon.<sup>ble</sup>*

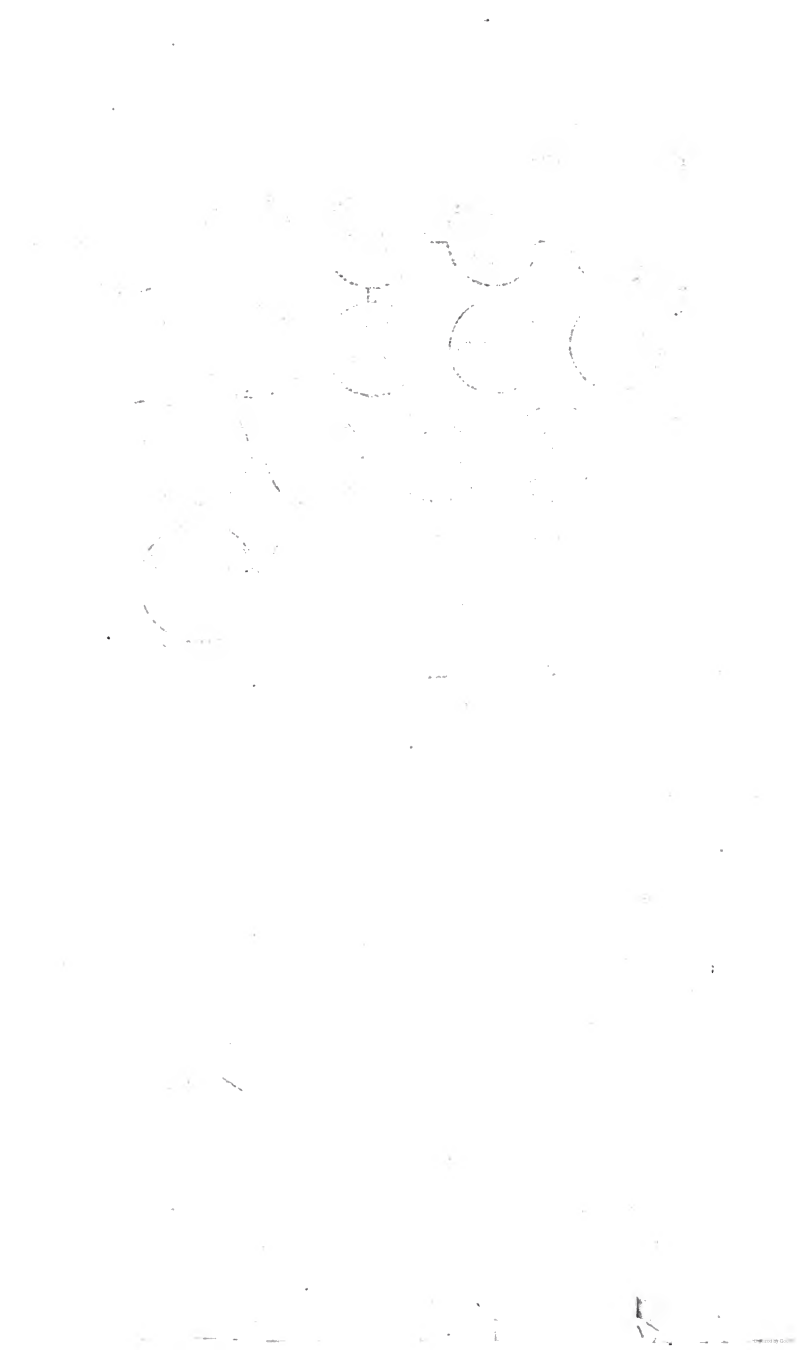
*Colon.<sup>l</sup> Paget*

*This Plate is  
by his most Obedient*

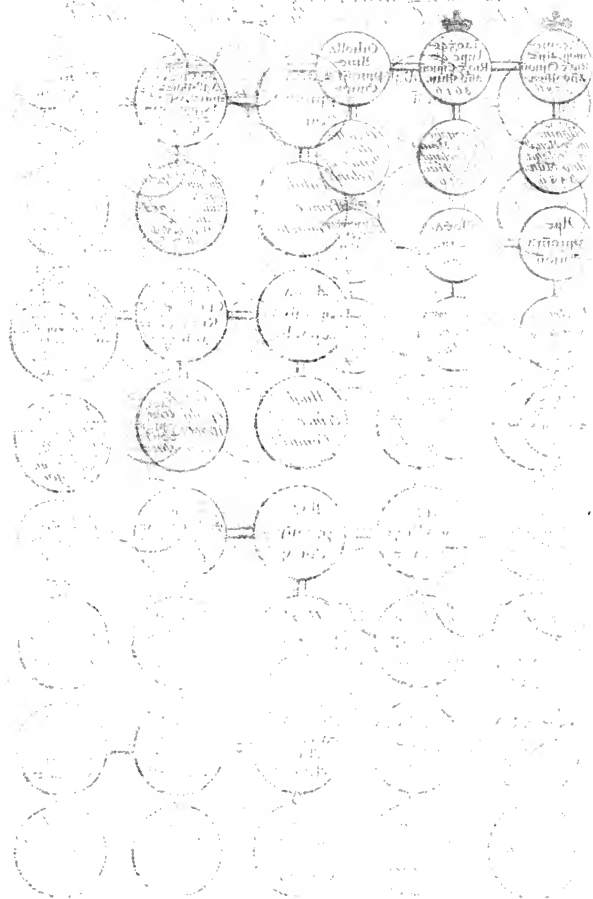
*humbly dedicated  
Servant*

*Der.<sup>d</sup> o Connor*





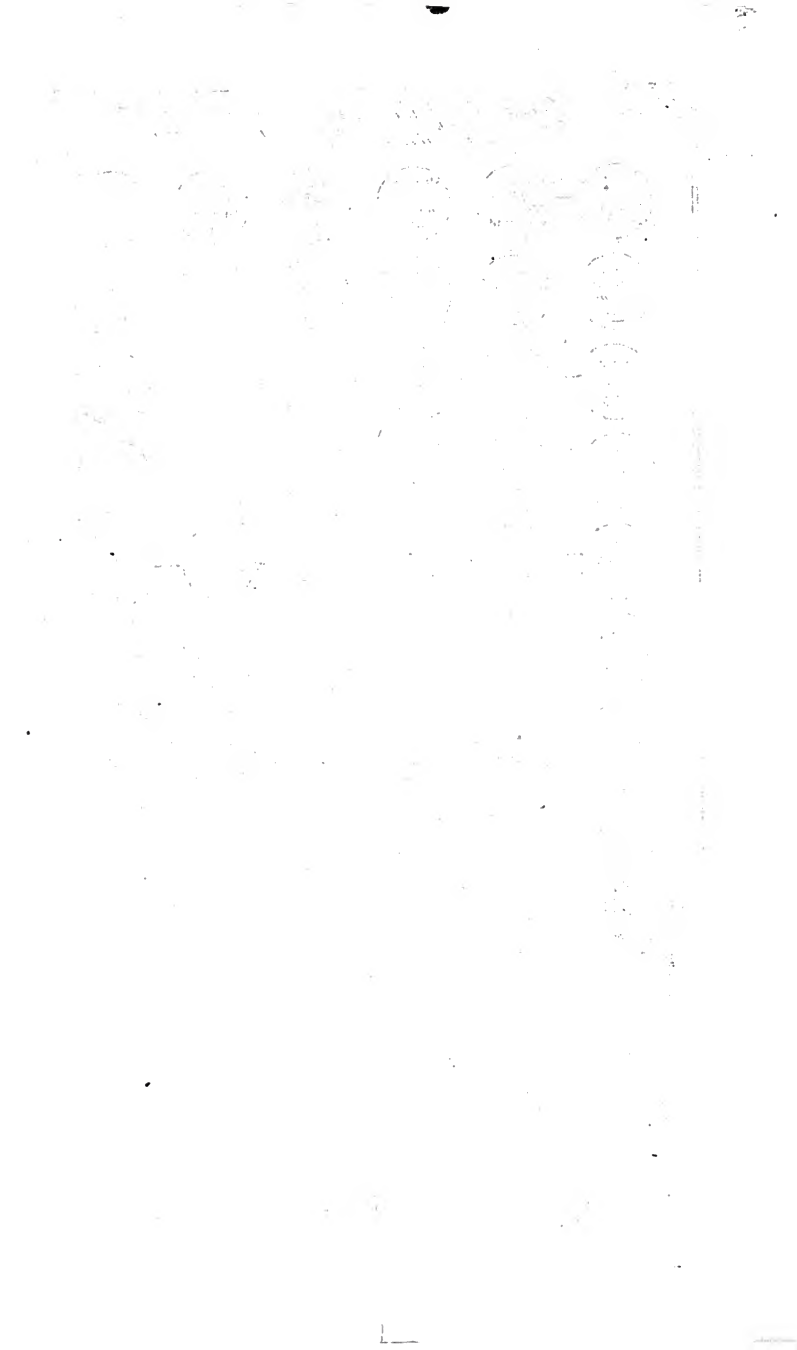




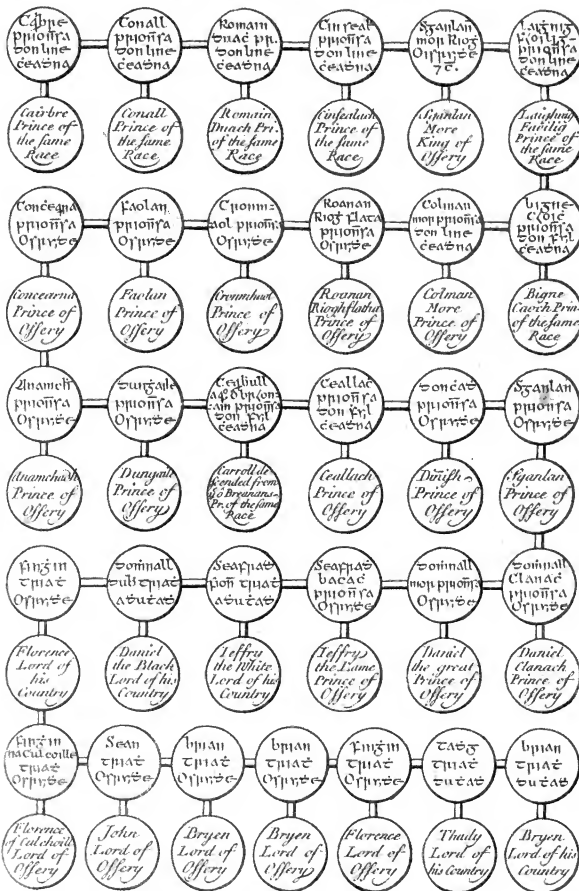


*12/16/19*





*The Lineal Genealogie of the Ancient and Princely Family  
of the Fitz Patricks ended.*



*To the Hon.<sup>ble</sup>*

*Colon! Cosby*

*This Plate is —  
by his most Obedient*

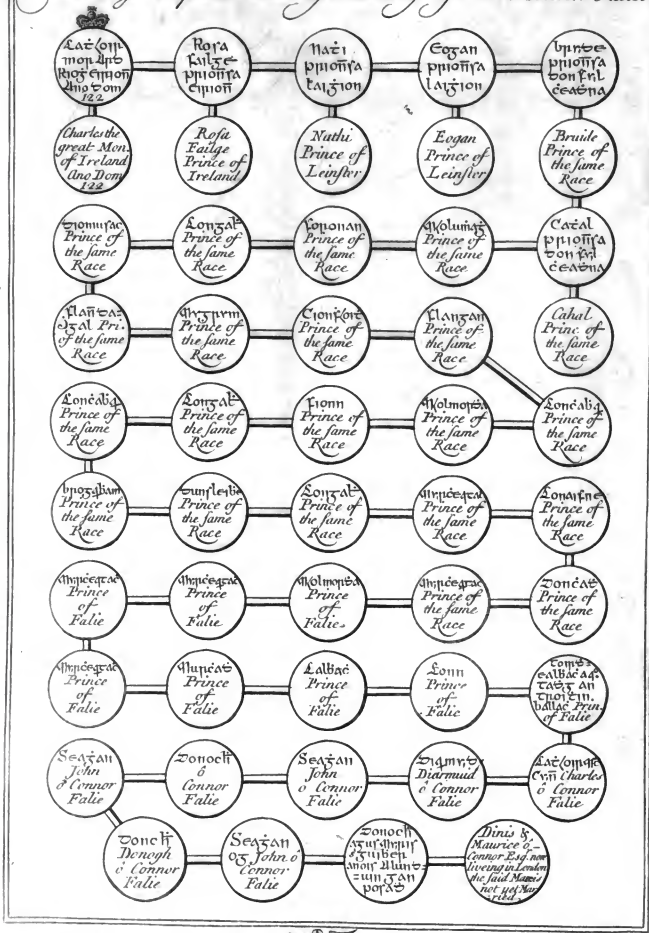
*humbly dedicated  
Servant —*



*Der. d<sup>e</sup> Conner*



# The Pedegree of the Princely Family of the o'Connor Falles



To Meills o  
in y Kingdom

This Plate is —  
by his most Obedient



Carroll Esq.<sup>r</sup>  
of Ireland

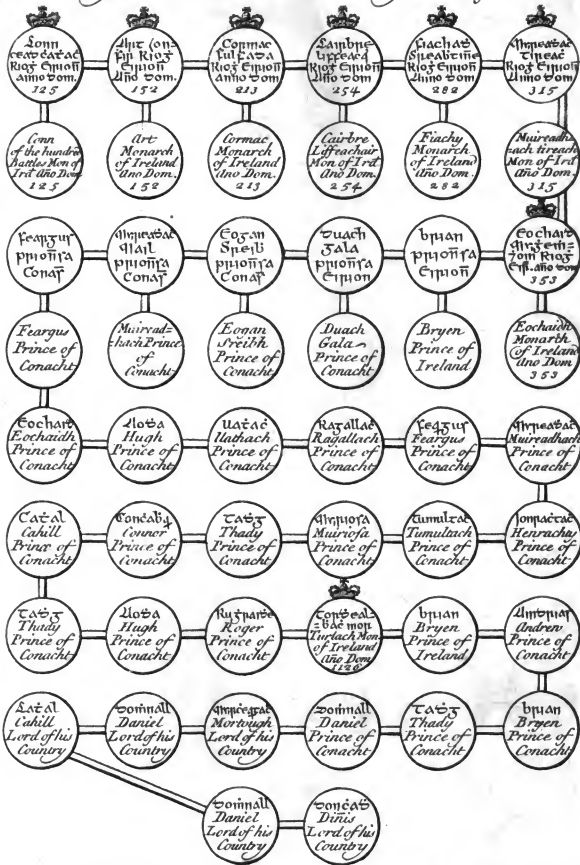
humbly dedicated  
Servant  
Der. o Connor



1. The first step is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

126

*The Pedigree of the Princely Family of the o Connor Fligoes from  
Conn of the Hundred Battles to King Charles 1.<sup>st</sup> time*



To S.<sup>r</sup> Laurence

Trant Barronet

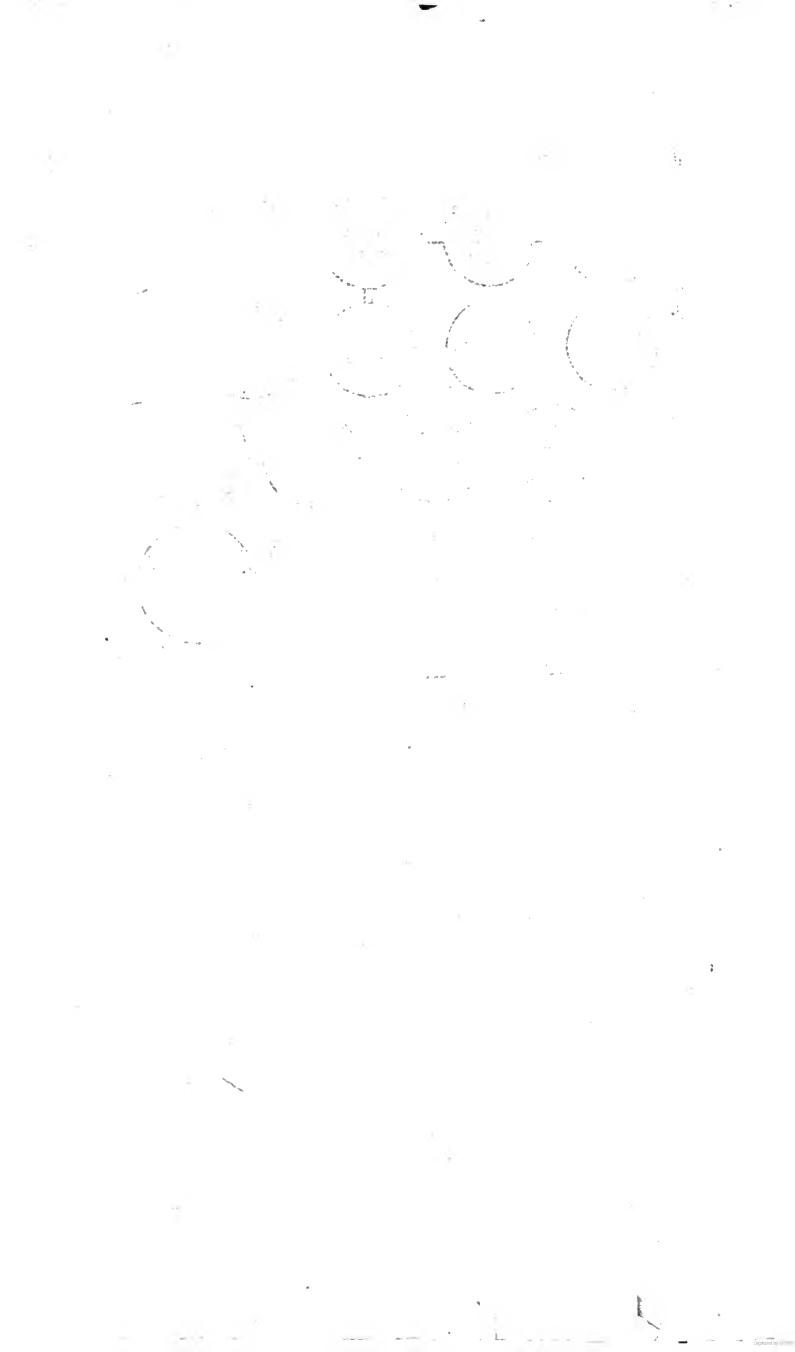
This Plate is—  
by his most Obedient

humbly dedicated  
Servant—

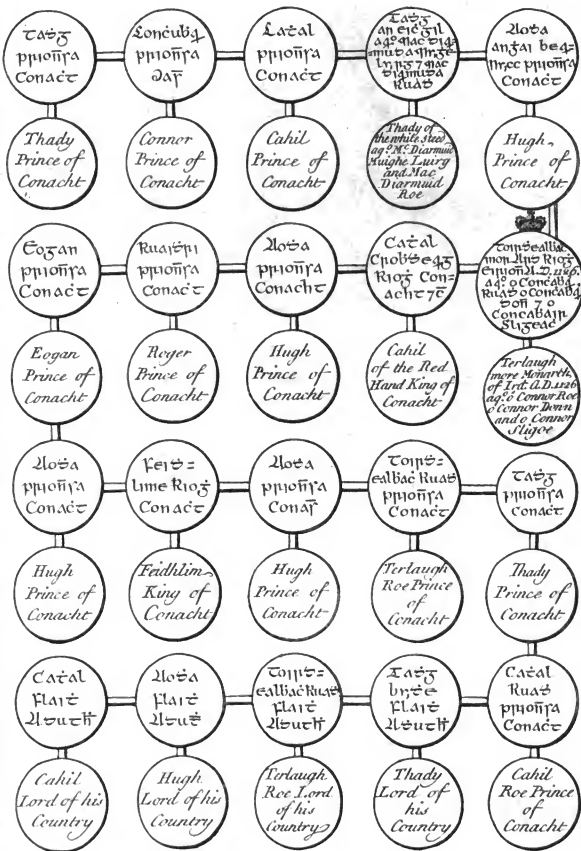
Der.<sup>d</sup> o Connor



AQUILA MUSEAS  
NON CAPIT



*The o' Connor Roes Pedigree ended*



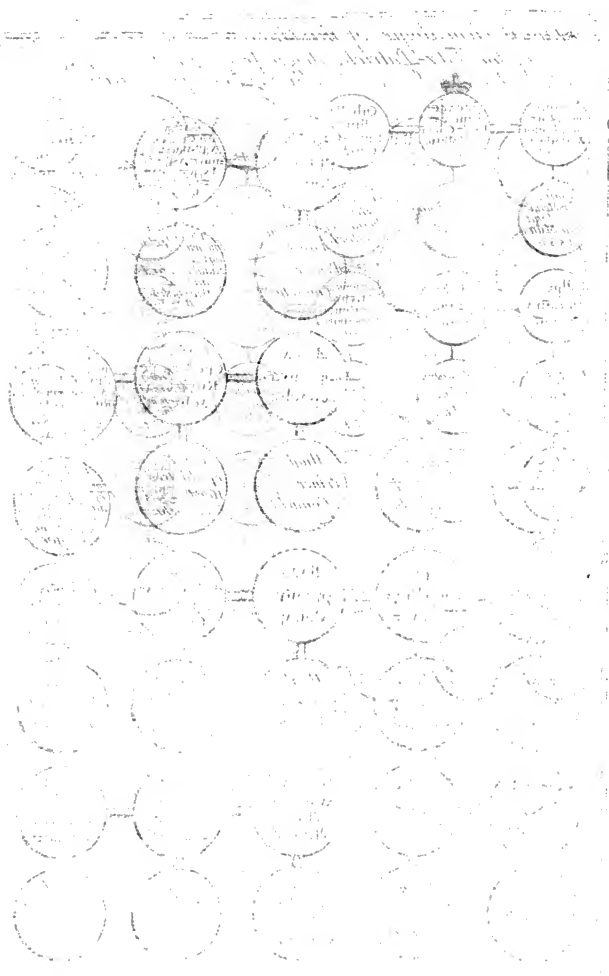
To the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> the  
of Treasury in y<sup>e</sup> Kingdom



Lord Viscount Roch  
of Ireland—

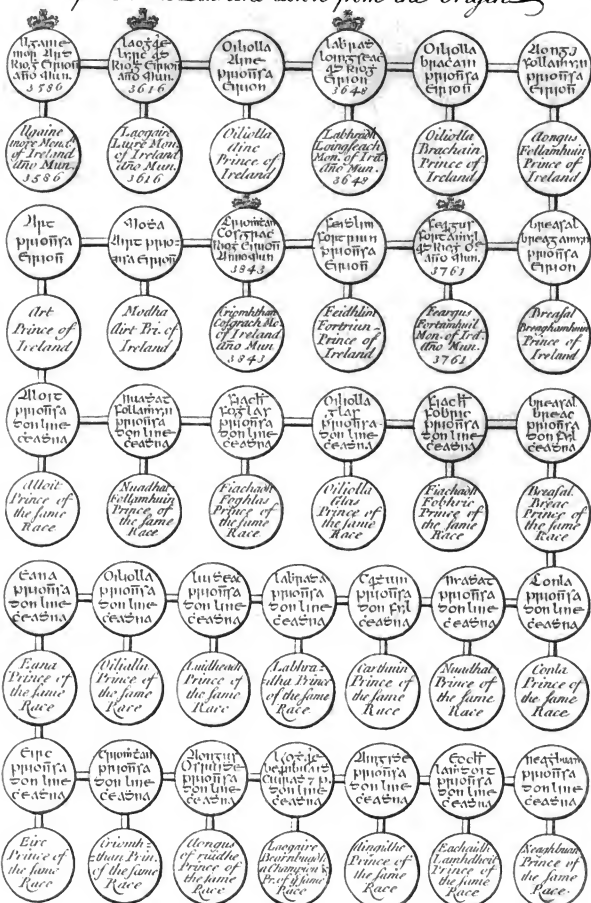
*This Plate is  
by his Lordships*

humbly dedicated  
most Obedient Ser.<sup>t</sup>  
Der. o' Connor





*The Lineal Genealogie of the Ancient and Princely Family  
of the Fitz-Patricks down from the Origin*

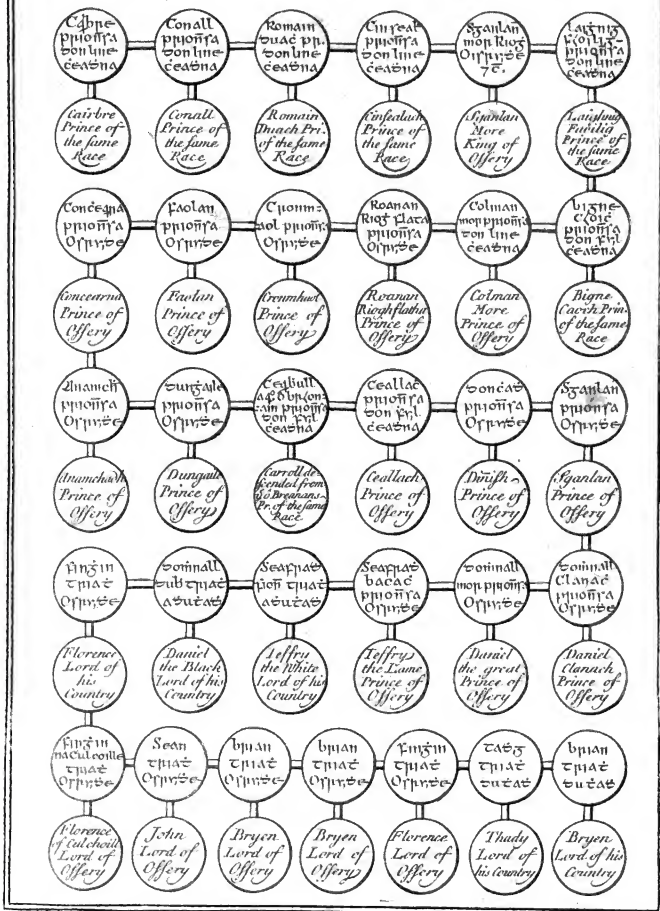


*To the R. Hon.<sup>ble</sup> the Lord Governor*  
*This Plate is*  
*by his Lordships*  
*humbly dedicated*  
*most Obedient Serv<sup>t</sup>*  
*Der. o Connor.*





*The Lineal Genealogie of the Ancient and Princely Family  
of the Fitz Patricks ended.*



*To the Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Colon.<sup>l</sup> Cosby*

*This Plate is — humbly dedicated  
by his most Obedient Servant —*

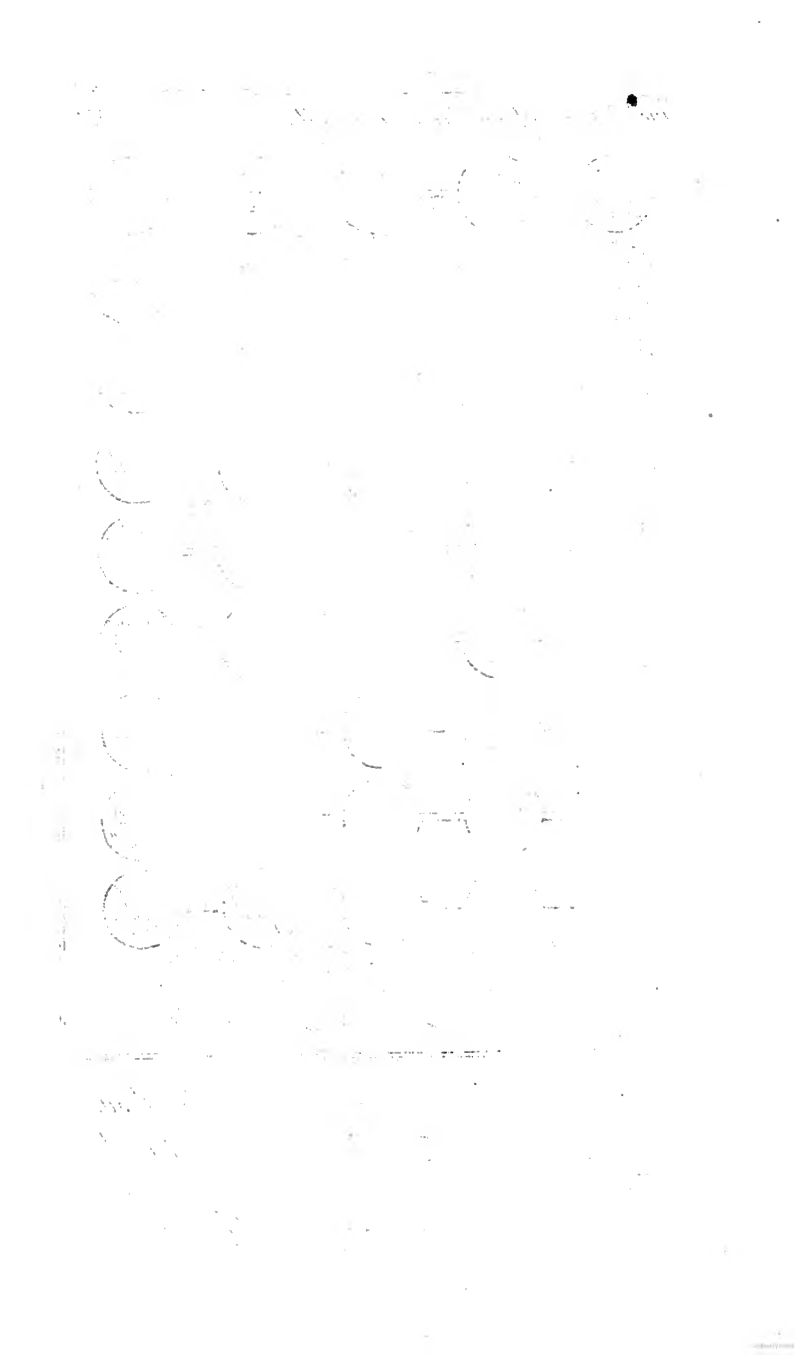


*Der.<sup>d</sup> Conner*

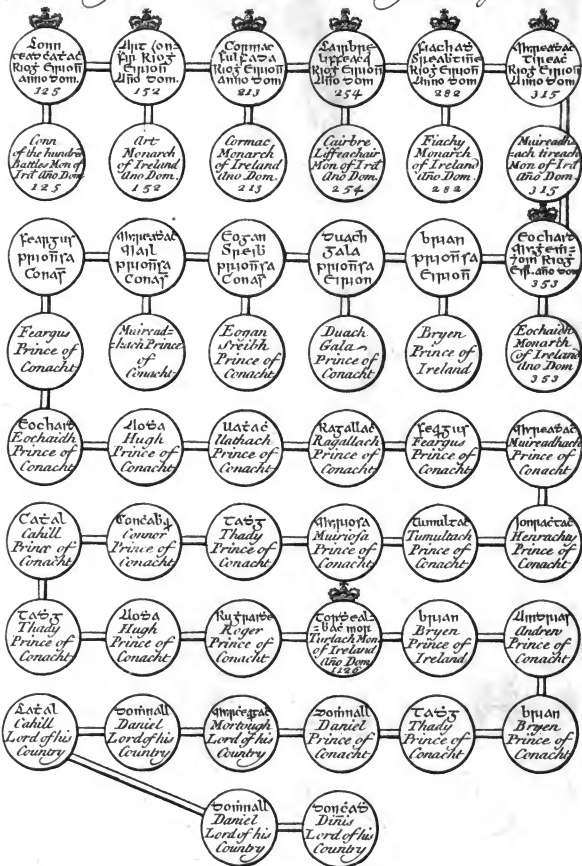








*The Pedigree of the Princely Family of the o Connor Fligoes from  
Conn of the Hundred Battles to King Charles 1.<sup>st</sup> time*



To S<sup>r</sup> Laurence

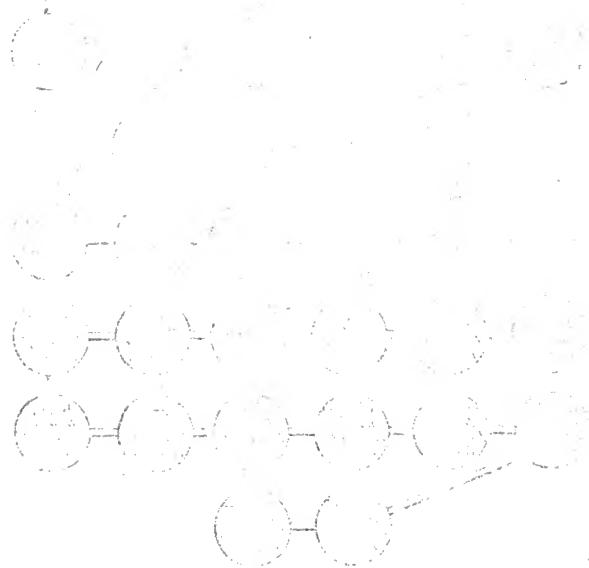
Trant Barronet

This Plate is—  
by his most Obedient

humbly dedicated  
Servant



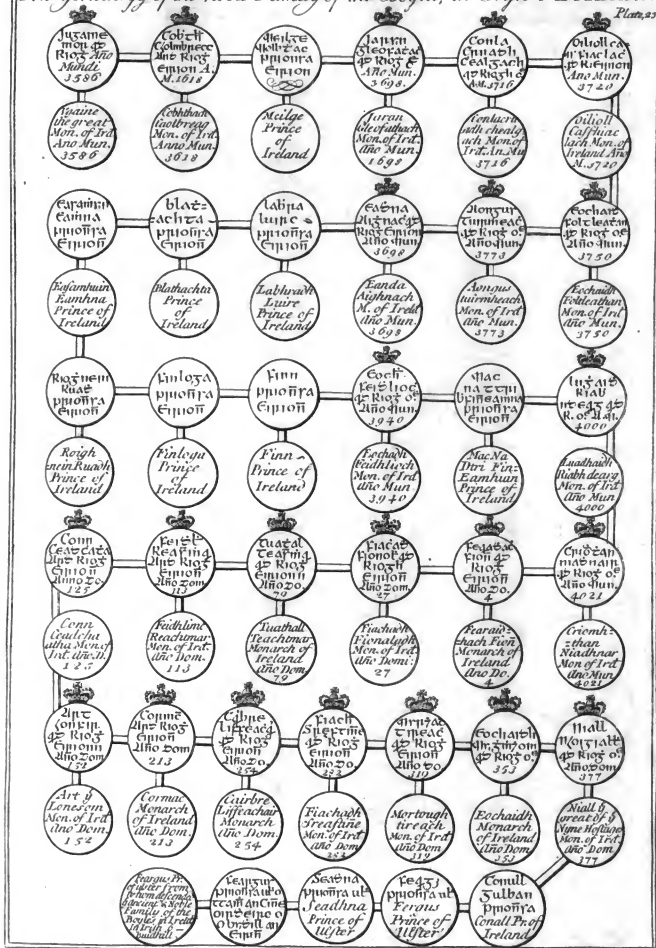
Der.<sup>d</sup> o Connor



Handwritten text at the bottom of the page, possibly a signature or date.

*The Genealogy of the Noble Family of the Boyles, in Irish o BUIDHIL.*

Plate 23



*To the R. Hon. the*

*Earl of Burlington*

*This Plate is*

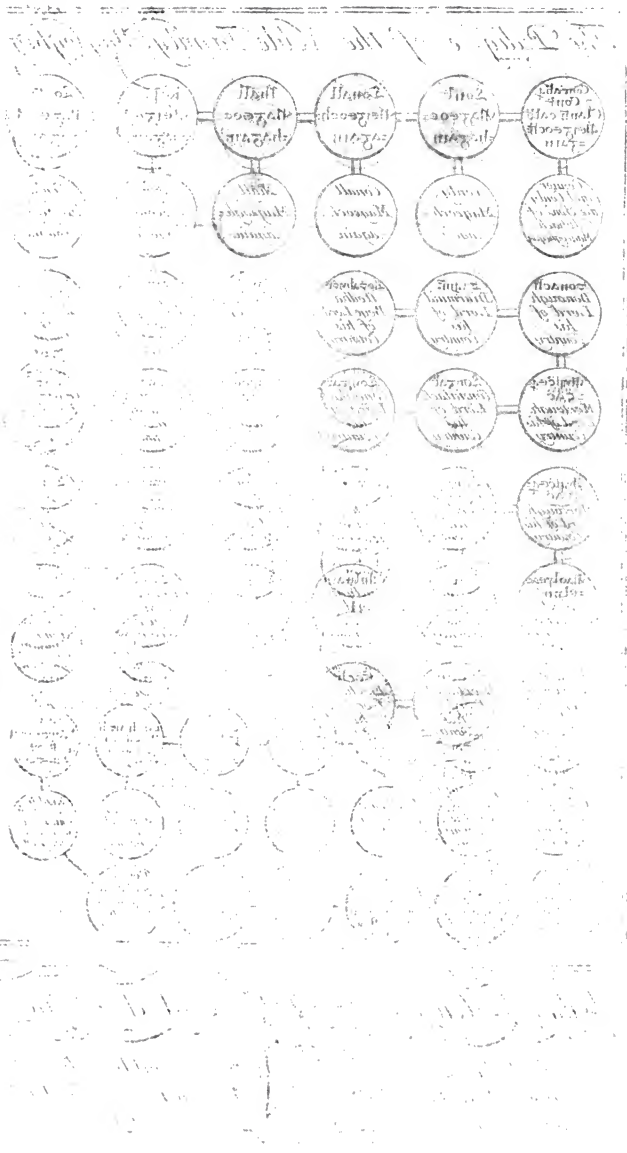
*by his Lordships*

*humbly dedicated*

*most Obedient Servt*

*Der. c. Conner.*



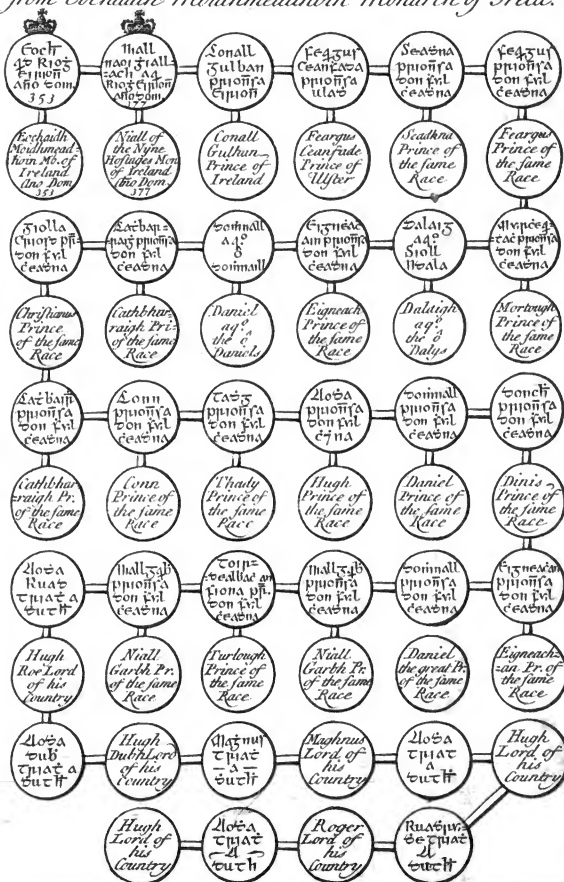








*The Pedigree of the Princely Family of o'Daniel Down  
from Eochaidh Mordhmeadhoin Monarch of Irelt.*



To the R<sup>t</sup> Hon.<sup>ble</sup> S<sup>r</sup>  
Lord Mayor of y<sup>e</sup>



Gerard Conyers K<sup>t</sup>  
City of London

This Plate is —  
by his Lordships most

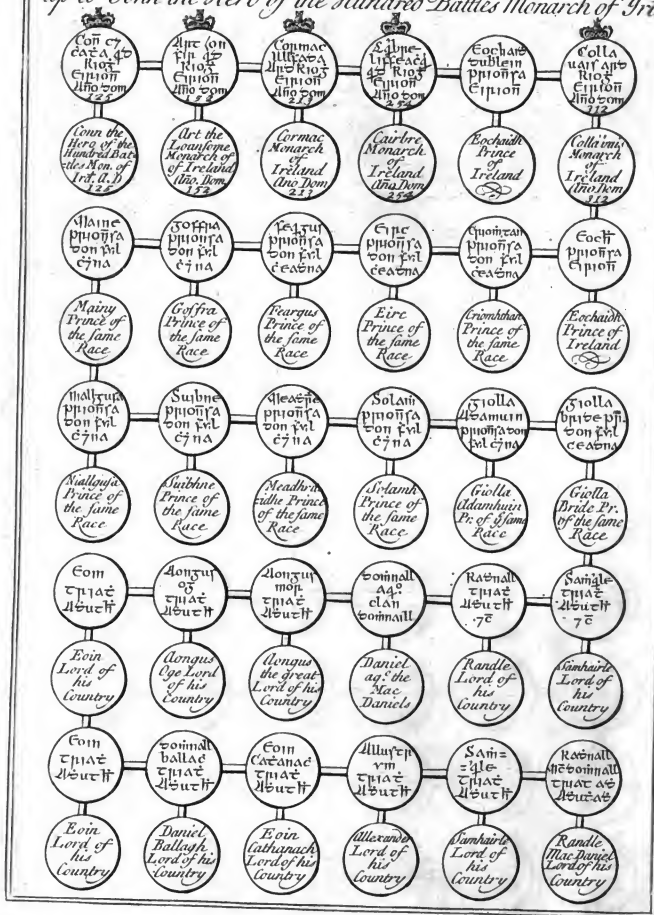
humbly dedicated  
Obedient

Der.<sup>d</sup> o' Connor.

the property of the family of a Duke of Devonshire, and is now in the possession of the Duke of Devonshire.

[illegible]

*The Genealogie of the Princely Family of the Mac Daniels  
up to Conn the Hero of the Hundred Battles Monarch of Irt.*



To the R. Hon. <sup>ble</sup> of

Earl of Monbrath

This Plate is —  
by his Lordships most



humbly dedicated  
Obedient Servant  
Der. d Connor

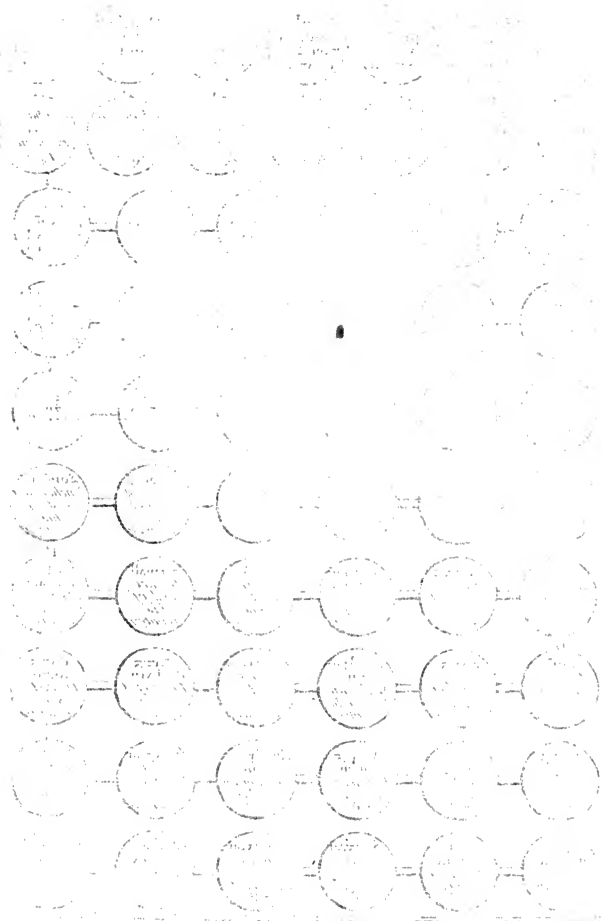


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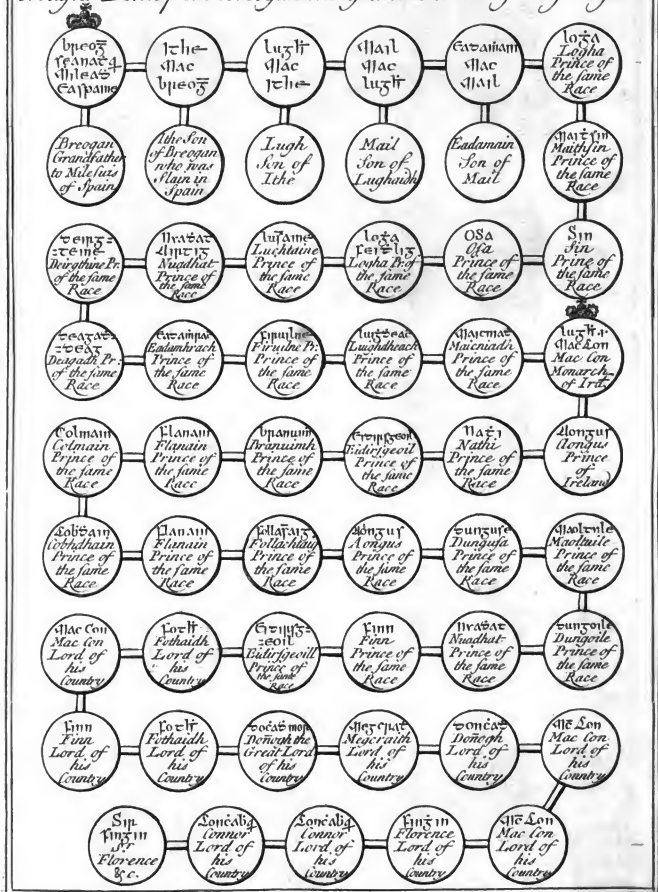


To the R. Hon. W. J. ...  
 (Signature)  
 ...





*The Genealogie of the most Ancient & Noble Family of O'Driscoll brought Down from Breogan the Grand-Father of King Milesius*



*To the Right-  
William E!*

*This Plate is humbly  
most Obedient Servant*



*Honourable  
Cadogan*

*dedicat. by his Lordships*

*Der. d' Connor.*

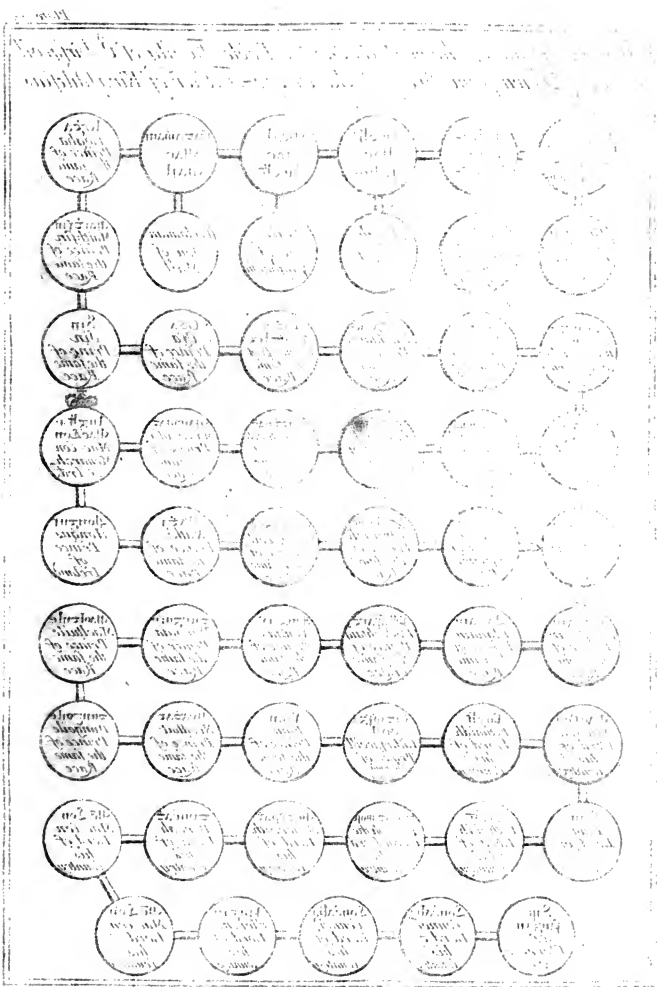






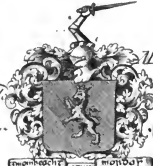





Diagram illustrating a network or system. The nodes are arranged in 8 rows and 6 columns. The connections are as follows:

- Row 1: All 6 nodes are connected horizontally.
- Row 2: All 6 nodes are connected horizontally.
- Row 3: All 6 nodes are connected horizontally.
- Row 4: All 6 nodes are connected horizontally.
- Row 5: All 6 nodes are connected horizontally.
- Row 6: All 6 nodes are connected horizontally.
- Row 7: All 6 nodes are connected horizontally.
- Row 8: All 6 nodes are connected horizontally.
- Vertical connections: Nodes in the same column are connected vertically from Row 1 to Row 8.
- Diagonal connections: Nodes in the first column of Row 1 are connected to the second column of Row 2. Nodes in the first column of Row 2 are connected to the second column of Row 3. Nodes in the first column of Row 3 are connected to the second column of Row 4. Nodes in the first column of Row 4 are connected to the second column of Row 5. Nodes in the first column of Row 5 are connected to the second column of Row 6. Nodes in the first column of Row 6 are connected to the second column of Row 7. Nodes in the first column of Row 7 are connected to the second column of Row 8.



|                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Macarthy More<br/>17<sup>th</sup> of the R<sup>ty</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> of<br/>Earl of Wancarty</p>  | <p>The Right Hon<sup>ble</sup><br/>William Brien<br/>Earl of Inchiquin</p>  |
| <p>The most Noble<br/>Ancient Family<br/>of the Sullerans</p>                                             | <p>The Ancient Noble<br/>Family of the Denochos</p>                         |
| <p>The Ancient Noble<br/>Family of the Carrills</p>                                                       | <p>The most Ancient<br/>Noble Family of the Maginnises</p>                  |
| <p>The Most Noble<br/>Family of the Connors<br/>Kerrys</p>                                               | <p>The most Illustrious<br/>Noble Family of the Great<br/>Connors</p>      |
| <p>The most Noble<br/>Family of the Connors<br/>Sligoes</p>                                             | <p>The most Noble and<br/>Ancient Family of the<br/>Connors Kellys</p>    |

To. Mau. o Connor  
County in y Kingdom

This Plate is —  
by his most Obedient













Falie of the Kings  
of Ireland Esquire.

humbly dedicated  
Servant

Der. o Connor

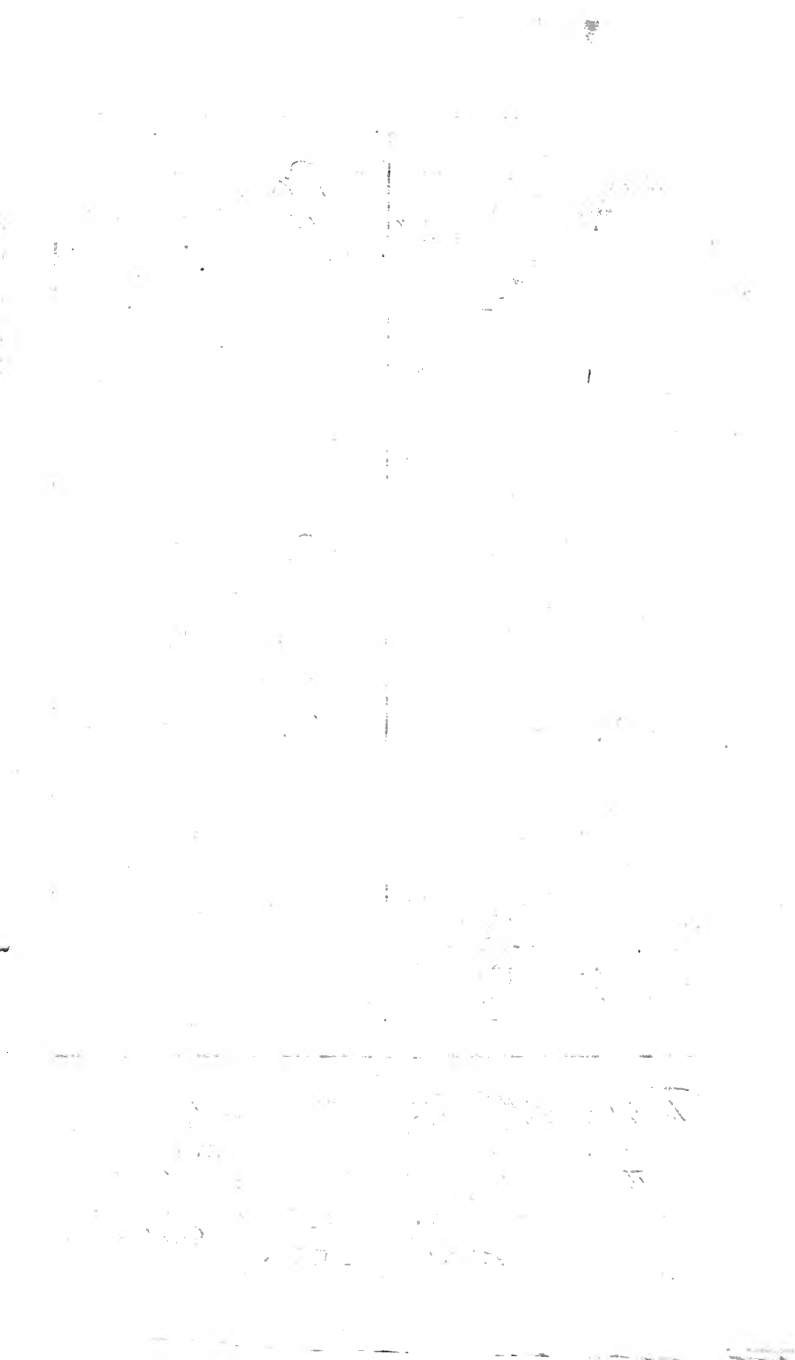
|    |     |
|----|-----|
| 1  | 2   |
| 3  | 4   |
| 5  | 6   |
| 7  | 8   |
| 9  | 10  |
| 11 | 12  |
| 13 | 14  |
| 15 | 16  |
| 17 | 18  |
| 19 | 20  |
| 21 | 22  |
| 23 | 24  |
| 25 | 26  |
| 27 | 28  |
| 29 | 30  |
| 31 | 32  |
| 33 | 34  |
| 35 | 36  |
| 37 | 38  |
| 39 | 40  |
| 41 | 42  |
| 43 | 44  |
| 45 | 46  |
| 47 | 48  |
| 49 | 50  |
| 51 | 52  |
| 53 | 54  |
| 55 | 56  |
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| 69 | 70  |
| 71 | 72  |
| 73 | 74  |
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| 77 | 78  |
| 79 | 80  |
| 81 | 82  |
| 83 | 84  |
| 85 | 86  |
| 87 | 88  |
| 89 | 90  |
| 91 | 92  |
| 93 | 94  |
| 95 | 96  |
| 97 | 98  |
| 99 | 100 |











|                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The Ancient<br/>Noble<br/>Of the</p>  <p>(and)<br/>Family<br/>Maguires</p>      | <p>The Noble<br/>Ancient<br/>Of the</p>  <p>(and)<br/>Family<br/>Cavanagh</p>      |
| <p>The Ancient<br/>Family<br/>Fitz</p>  <p>&amp; Noble<br/>Of the<br/>Patricks</p> | <p>The Noble<br/>Ancient<br/>Of the</p>  <p>(and)<br/>Family<br/>Murphys</p>       |
| <p>The Ancient<br/>Noble<br/>Of the</p>  <p>(and)<br/>Family<br/>Mageoghaghans</p> | <p>The Noble<br/>Ancient<br/>Of the</p>  <p>(and)<br/>Family<br/>O'Rourkes</p>     |
| <p>The Noble<br/>Ancient<br/>Of the O'</p>  <p>(and)<br/>Family<br/>Cahanes</p>   | <p>The Ancient<br/>Noble<br/>Of the</p>  <p>(and)<br/>Family<br/>O'Tooles</p>     |
| <p>The Noble<br/>Ancient<br/>Of the O'</p>  <p>(and)<br/>Family<br/>Daniels</p>  | <p>The Ancient<br/>Noble<br/>Of the Mac</p>  <p>(and)<br/>Family<br/>Daniels</p> |

To the R.<sup>t</sup> Hon.<sup>ble</sup>  
Charlotte  
This Plate is  
by her Ladyships



to the Lady  
West  
humbly Dedicated  
most Obedient Ser.<sup>t</sup>  
Der.<sup>t</sup> & Connor

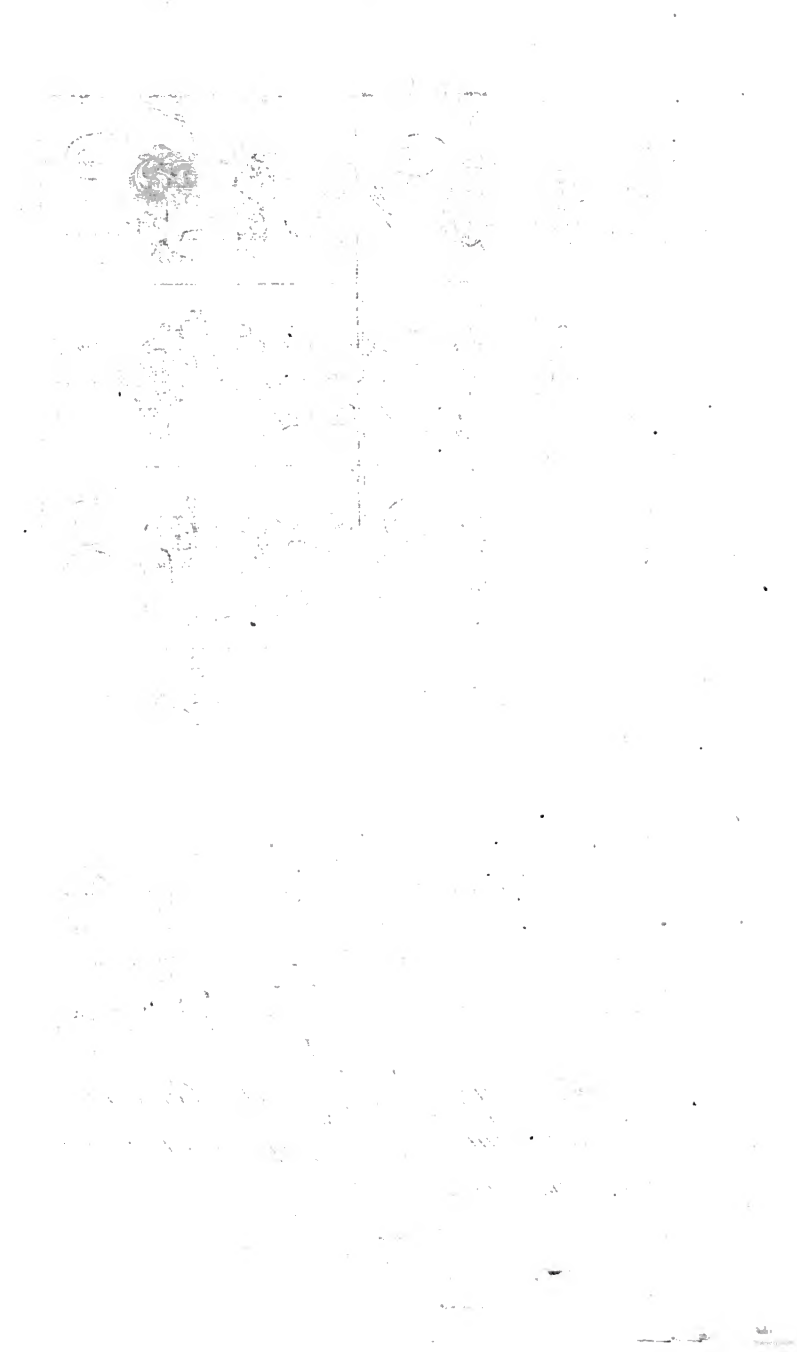












|                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The Noble<br/>Wartlike<br/>of the o</p>  <p>and Family<br/>Callaghans</p>                          | <p>The Anc.<br/>Valiant<br/>of the o</p>  <p>and Family<br/>Dohertys</p>                                 |
| <p>The Anc.<br/>y<sup>e</sup> Cobblethwaite<br/>Posterity</p>  <p>Family of<br/>of the<br/>of 9th</p> | <p>The Anc.<br/>y<sup>e</sup> MacLoch<br/>Posterity of</p>  <p>Family of<br/>lins of the<br/>Heremon</p> |
| <p>The Anc.<br/>Famous<br/>of the o</p>  <p>and Family<br/>Donavans</p>                               | <p>The Anc.<br/>Noble<br/>of the</p>  <p>and Family<br/>Macnemarus</p>                                   |
| <p>The<br/>Family<br/>the o</p>  <p>Ancient<br/>of<br/>Hickies</p>                                   | <p>The<br/>Family<br/>the o</p>  <p>Ancient<br/>of<br/>Meaghers</p>                                     |
| <p>The Valiant<br/>Family<br/>Breanons</p>  <p>and Anc.<br/>of the o<br/>of 10th</p>                | <p>One of the<br/>Family<br/>Mac</p>  <p>Noble<br/>of the<br/>Daniels</p>                              |

The Anc.<sup>t</sup> Family of y<sup>e</sup> Comerfords  
of the Kingdom of Irel.<sup>d</sup> formerly  
Called Barons of Danggenmore







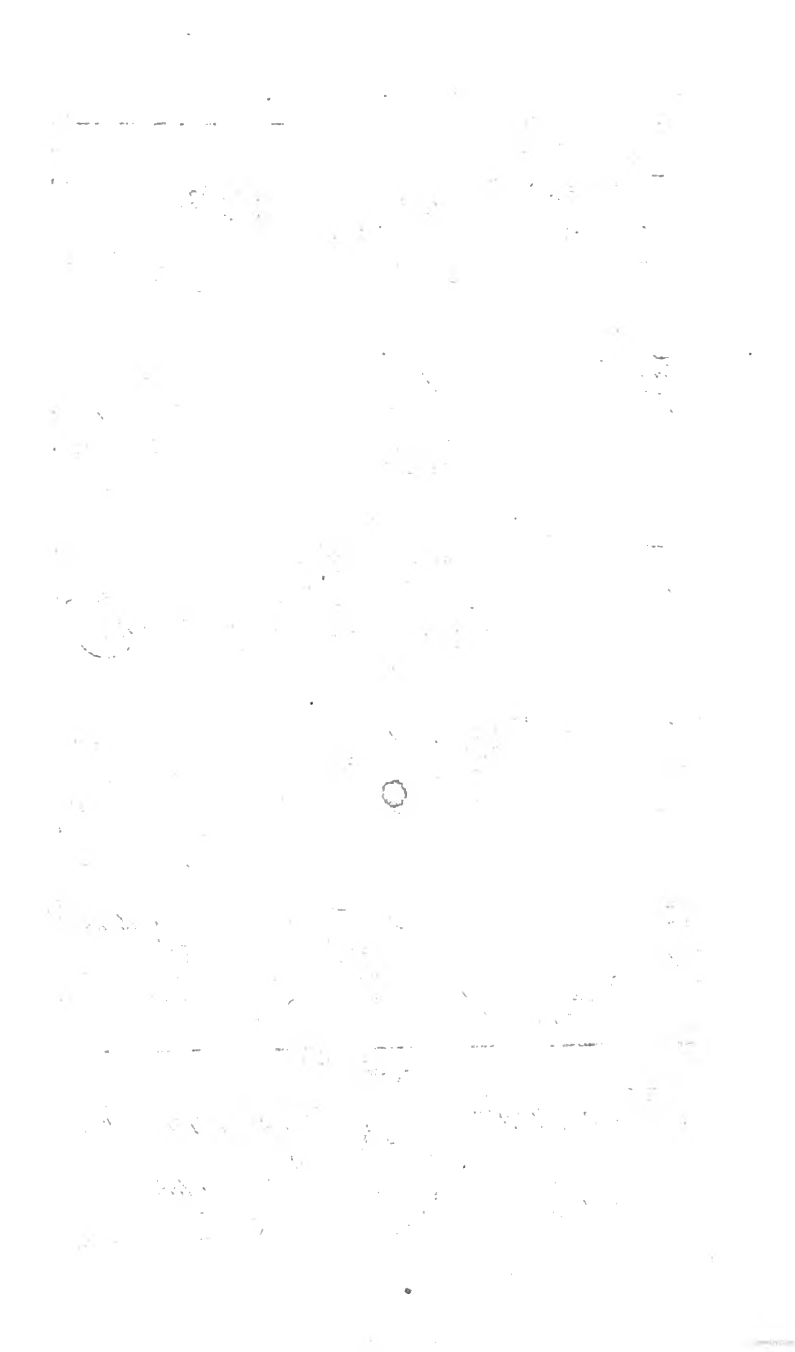
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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup><br/>Noble<br/>of the o</p>  <p>and<br/>Family<br/>Farnills</p>         | <p>The Noble<br/>Family<br/>o Connor</p>  <p>and Anc.<sup>t</sup><br/>of the<br/>Corcamroe</p> |
| <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup><br/>Noble<br/>of the o</p>  <p>and<br/>Family<br/>Loghlins</p>         | <p>The<br/>Family<br/>the o</p>  <p>Ancient<br/>of<br/>Cahills</p>                             |
| <p>The<br/>Family<br/>the o</p>  <p>Ancient<br/>of<br/>Shanlys</p>                             | <p>The<br/>of<br/>Milefean</p>  <p>Carries<br/>the<br/>Race</p>                                |
| <p>The<br/>Family<br/>the o</p>  <p>Ancient<br/>of<br/>Gradys</p>                             | <p>The<br/>Family<br/>the o</p>  <p>Ancient<br/>of<br/>Connells</p>                           |
| <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup><br/>of the<br/>of the</p>  <p>Family<br/>o'Mannis<br/>Irish Race</p> | <p>The<br/>Family<br/>the</p>  <p>Ancient<br/>of<br/>Gormans</p>                             |

To the Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Katherine Butler.

This Plate is—  
by her most Obed<sup>t</sup>



humbly dedicated  
Servant—  
Der.<sup>d</sup> o Connor.



An  
Family  
Mac



Ancient  
of the  
Enierys

The  
Family  
the



Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
of  
Purfells

One of  
Famyls  
the



the  
of  
Neams

One of  
Famyls  
Lyons of



the  
of the  
Ireland

Another  
of  
Lyons



Family  
the

Another  
Family  
the



of the  
of  
Lyons

Another  
the  
of the



of  
Family  
Lyons

The  
of  
Lyons



Family  
the  
of Conaght

The  
Family  
Mac



Ancient  
of the  
Fingahs

One of  
Family  
the

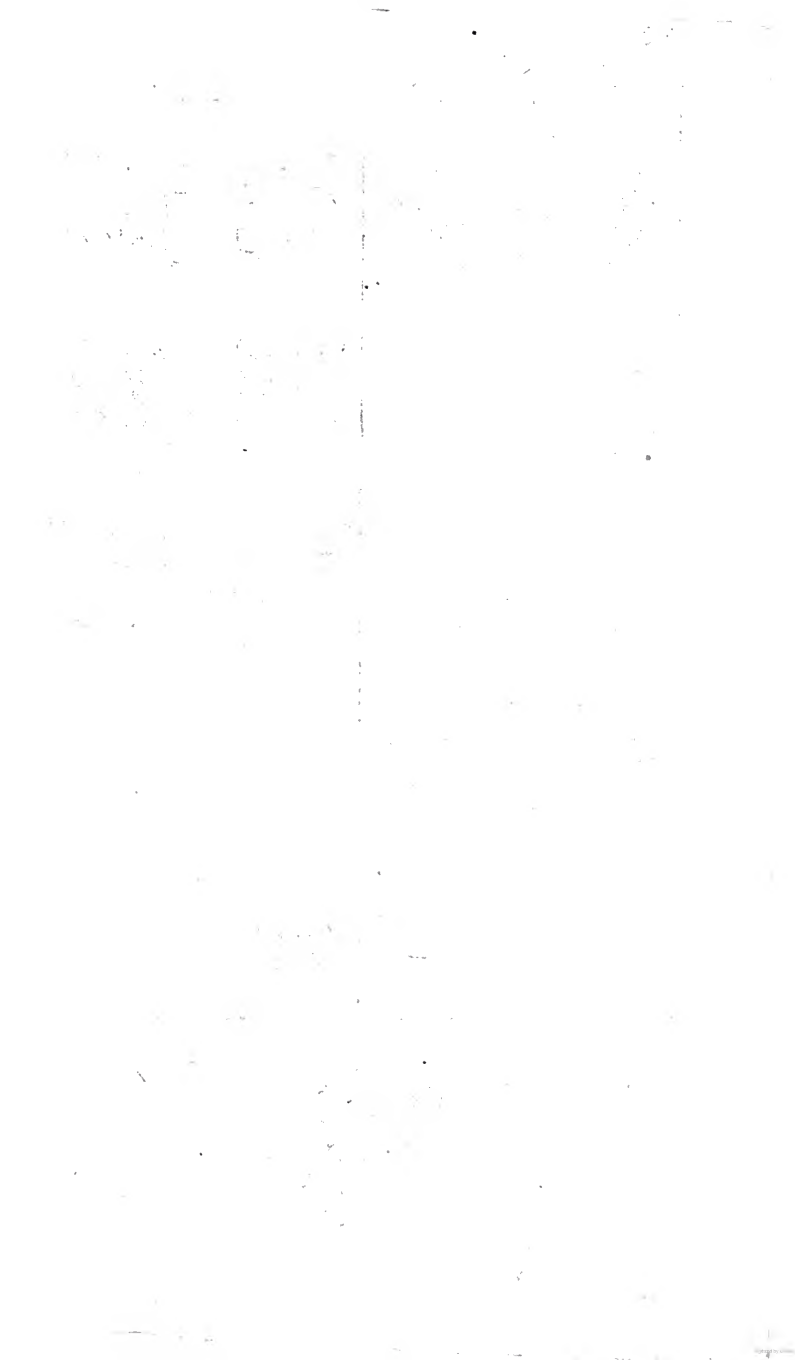


the  
of  
Troyshins

To the R<sup>h</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Earl of Kerry

This Plate is ———— humbly dedicated  
by his Lordships most Obedient servant  
Thos<sup>o</sup> Conner







The Anc.<sup>t</sup> Family  
of the *o'Flynn*  
Descended from Kereemon



The Family of long  
a Family Residence in Ireland



One of the Family  
Whites of Worthy  
of the Ireland



The Family of long  
a Family residence in Ireland



A Family of the  
Brin- hills  
in Ireland



A Family of  
the Delahorns  
in Ireland



The Family of long  
a Family residence in Ireland



The Family of  
the County of  
Kerry in Ireland



One of the Family  
Lynches of the  
in Ireland



The Family of  
the Ancient  
Healys



To Maur.<sup>e</sup> Keating of Naramore  
of y<sup>e</sup> Kingdom of Ireland) Esq.<sup>r</sup>













This Plate is  
by his most Obedient

humbly dedicated  
Servant

Der.<sup>d</sup> o' Connor.




|                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The Family the</p>  <p>Ancient of Nonland</p>                                   | <p>The Ant<sup>l</sup> and Worthy of the o<sup>o</sup> Family Crulie</p>  |
| <p>The Family the</p>  <p>Ancient of Cusake</p>                                    | <p>One of the and Ant<sup>l</sup> of the Worthy Family Magrath</p>        |
| <p>The Hon<sup>ble</sup> of the Family of Thomas Mathews Town</p>                  | <p>One Noble of the Families of the Donds</p>                             |
| <p>The Family the</p>  <p>Ancient of Bradys</p>                                   | <p>The Family of Mac Deargans</p>                                        |
| <p>The Ant<sup>l</sup> Family Mac</p>  <p>35 Hon<sup>ble</sup> of the Inynys</p> | <p>The Family the</p>  <p>Ancient of Fahys</p>                          |

To his Grace Willm<sup>m</sup> Lord Archb<sup>sh</sup>op of Dublin and Primate of Ireland

This Plate is ————

by his Graces most



humbly dedicate  
Obedient Servant  
Der. & Conner

34, 164

[illegible]

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James o'Hara Lord  
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| <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup> Family the 6<sup>o</sup></p>  <p>and Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Of Dwire</p> | <p>The Family the 6<sup>o</sup></p>  <p>Ancient Of Deas</p>                                     |
| <p>The Of the Of</p>  <p>O'Quins County Clare</p>                                            | <p>The and Hon.<sup>ble</sup> of O</p>  <p>Ancient Family Mahy</p>                              |
| <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup> Family the</p>  <p>and Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Of O'Connellagh</p>        | <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup> Hon.<sup>ble</sup> of the</p>  <p>and Family Meara</p>                  |
| <p>One of y<sup>e</sup> and Anc.<sup>t</sup> of the Mac</p>  <p>Famous Family Diarmott</p>  | <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup> Hon.<sup>ble</sup> of the</p>  <p>and Family Fearghus</p>              |
| <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup> Of the the County</p>  <p>Family Clancy of Clare</p>               | <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup> Family MacMahon</p>  <p>&amp; Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Of the of Ulster</p> |

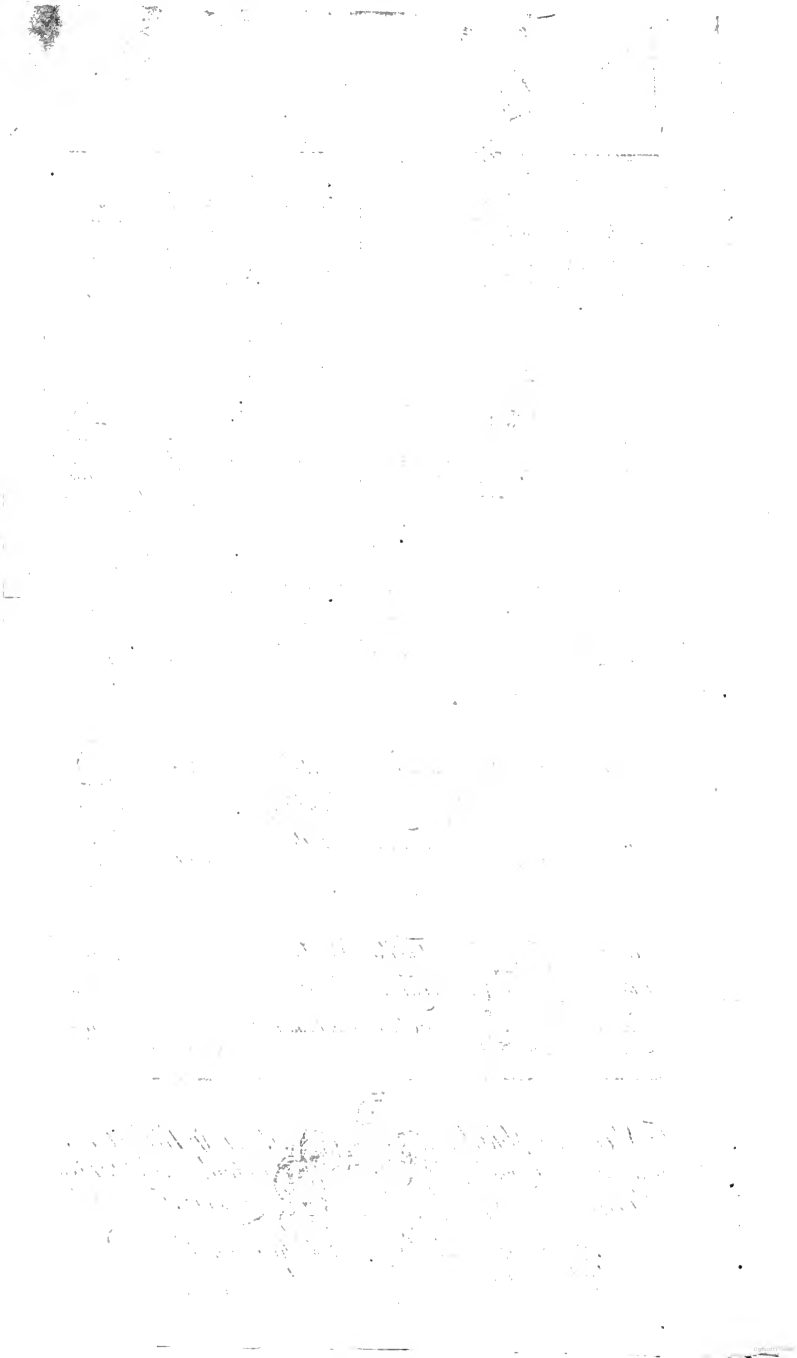
To S<sup>r</sup> George Shuddy  
 Order of S<sup>t</sup> Lewis &  
 Christian Majesty



K<sup>t</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> Military  
 Colon<sup>l</sup> of Foot to his most  
 Lewis the Fifteenth

This Plate is ———— humbly dedicated  
 by his most Obedient Servant

Der.<sup>d</sup> O'Connor.



The Anc<sup>t</sup> Family  
of the Brynes  
Decended from Hieromon



The Joys of Ireland a  
Family of Long Resident  
there is settled in Munster



The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Family  
of the Eustaces  
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The Family  
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The Anc<sup>t</sup> Family  
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The Family  
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The Family  
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To y<sup>e</sup> R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Earl of Barrimore

This Plate is ——— humbly dedicated  
by his Lordships most Obedient Servant  
Der<sup>t</sup> o' Conner

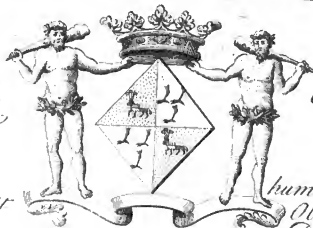






|                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                           |                                                        |                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The most<br/>Noble<br/>of the O</p>                                                      |  <p>Ancient &amp;<br/>Family<br/>Learys.</p>             | <p>The Bragham<br/>Worthy<br/>long residents</p>       |  <p>Arms of<br/>Family of<br/>in Ireland</p>     |
| <p>The<br/>&amp; Worthy<br/>the Foxes</p>                                                   |  <p>Ancient<br/>Family of<br/>in Ireland</p>             | <p>The Worthy<br/>ble Fam.<br/>Walls in</p>            |  <p>&amp; Memora-<br/>ble of the<br/>Ireland</p> |
| <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup> &amp; Hon.<sup>ble</sup><br/>Mulrian<br/>sometimes<br/>of Onney</p> |  <p>Family of O<br/>Onney<br/>Earl Kings<br/>Mulrian</p> | <p>The<br/>Family<br/>O</p>                            |  <p>Anc.<sup>t</sup><br/>of the<br/>Duane</p>    |
| <p>The Hon.<sup>ble</sup><br/>Plunkets<br/>Kingdom</p>                                      |  <p>Family of<br/>of the<br/>of Ireland</p>             | <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup><br/>Worthy Fa-<br/>Guilean</p> |  <p>&amp; most<br/>mily of O<br/>Carbery</p>    |
| <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup><br/>of the<br/>gans in</p>                                          |  <p>Family<br/>O'Regans<br/>Ireland</p>                | <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup><br/>memor-<br/>mily of O</p>   |  <p>and most<br/>able Fa-<br/>Shanlan.</p>     |

To Her  
Dutchess  
& Kendal













Grace of  
of Munster

This Plate is  
her Graces most

humbly dedicated by  
Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Der<sup>t</sup> o' Connor.



|                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup> &amp; Famous<br/>Family of O'<br/>Mul:  : len.</p>                                         | <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup><br/>&amp; Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Family<br/>of Mac  Murrrough</p>                            |
| <p>One of the<br/>Families<br/>of O'  Kennelly's</p>                                                               | <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup> &amp; most<br/>Worthy Family<br/>of the  Saxtons</p>                                     |
| <p>One of y<sup>e</sup> Anc.<sup>t</sup> and<br/>Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Family of the<br/>O'Brennon of  Both Duach</p> | <p>The Warlike and Hon.<sup>ble</sup><br/>Family of the<br/>Fitz Ger:  Mungier of the<br/>Mungier in Ireland</p> |
| <p>The An.<sup>t</sup> &amp; Ancient<br/>Auspicious Family<br/>of the O'  Nolan</p>                               | <p>The Anc.<sup>t</sup> &amp; Noble<br/>Family of the<br/>Mag:  Maganley</p>                                    |
| <p>One of the Anc.<sup>t</sup><br/>&amp; Noble Family<br/>of y<sup>e</sup> Mac  Swignies</p>                     | <p>The An.<sup>t</sup> &amp; Ancient<br/>Worthy Family<br/>of O'  Droney</p>                                   |

To James  Joye of  
Lond Esq.<sup>r</sup>

This Plate is humbly dedicat.<sup>d</sup>  
by his most Obedient Servant  
Der.<sup>d</sup> & Connec











JUN 3 1936

